



## Contra Costa County

### Renewable Resource Potential Study Stakeholder Meeting September 27, 2018

50 Douglas, Sequoia Room, Martinez, CA

#### Goals:

- Inform stakeholders about Study scope, purpose
- Obtain input on study methodology

#### Agenda:

- 10:30 Welcome, Introductions
- 10:40 Progress Update
- 11:10 Q&A, Discussion
- 11:50 Next Steps

#### Notes:

This is a summary of the notes that were taken on flip charts at the meeting.

- Consider a County-sponsored or endorsed program to invest in solar.
- What will be the form of the final report?  
Answer: The form of final report will be a technical assessment and some recommendations
- The County should consider fast-tracking some recommendations ahead of the larger update to the General Plan, which will be complete in 2020.
- Participant likes the inclusion of a category for “potential” construction
- It might be helpful in the final report to provide solar thresholds
- Participant is surprised at the magnitude of the focus in the presentation on rooftops.  
Might there be more potential in urban land?  
Answer: The information provided does not include areas of potential development.
- Landfills and buffer lands next to industrial facilities are considered viable areas for potential development.
- Including an economic analysis would make the study more valuable. Consider land values, feasibility of different project sizes.

- Look at potential for development on agricultural lands.
- Develop a vision statement. What is the County's goal for renewable energy?
- Consider near term and longer term trends and policies.
- Identify options for shorter term and longer term action.
- Discuss demand for energy storage, opportunities to abate the "duck curve."
- Clarification that report will be written for lay audience.
- Pair electric vehicle charging with energy storage.
- Consider development on brownfields in Contra Costa County, open buffer lands.  
Note: Analysis excludes marshlands, military properties.
- Chemical facilities could be good candidates for energy storage.
- Contra Costa County could export energy.
- Use cap and trade funds in disadvantaged communities.
- The market will determine what is prime agricultural land, and highest and best use of properties. In this study, the County should cast a wider net.
- Consider long-term price of power.
- Manage the Board of Supervisors' expectations. Consider energy cost, broader economic picture.
- Anticipate potential changes to cost structure, i.e. tax credits, and move to distributed energy model, which will mean less need for transmission and distribution infrastructure owned and managed by the utilities.
- Consider the tradeoff with infill opportunities and cost, and dual uses on agricultural lands.
- Can the County produce information on potential customers for this energy? What's the size of the market in Contra Costa County?

### **Next Steps:**

The County will hold one more stakeholder meeting, in October. The draft report will be available for stakeholders to review in advance of the meeting.

Once the resource assessment is complete, the County will be engaging with the communities of Bay Point, Rodeo, and North Richmond about potential community energy opportunities in those areas.

The final grant report for this project is due to the California Strategic Growth Council in March 2019.