

**JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT RELATING TO AND CREATING  
THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE**

This Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, effective on the date determined by Section 2.1, is made and entered into pursuant to the provisions of Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 1 (Sections 6500 et seq.) of the California Government Code relating to the joint exercise of powers and establishes the Valley Clean Energy Alliance (“VCEA”), is by and between the County of Yolo (“County”), the City of Davis (“City”) and those other cities and counties who become signatories to this Agreement as provided herein, who agree as follows:

**RECITALS**

- A. The Parties share various powers under California law, including but not limited to the power to purchase, supply, and aggregate electricity for themselves and customers within their jurisdictions.
- B. In 2006, the State Legislature adopted AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, which mandates a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 to 1990 levels. The California Air Resources Board is promulgating regulations to implement AB 32 which will require local governments to develop programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- C. The purposes for entering into this Agreement include:
  - a. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to the use of power in Yolo County and neighboring regions;
  - b. Providing electric power and other forms of energy to customers at a competitive cost;
  - c. Carrying out programs to reduce energy consumption;
  - d. Stimulating and sustaining the local economy by developing local jobs in renewable energy; and
  - e. Promoting long-term electric rate stability and energy security and reliability for residents through local control of electric generation resources.
- D. It is the mission and purpose of this Agreement to build a strong Community Choice Energy program that is locally controlled and delivers cost-competitive clean electricity, product choice, price stability, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reductions.

- E. It is the intent of this Agreement to promote the development and use of a wide range of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency programs, including but not limited to solar, wind, and biomass energy production. The purchase of renewable power and greenhouse gas-free energy sources will be the desired approach to decrease regional greenhouse gas emissions and accelerate the State's transition to clean power resources to the extent feasible. The Agency will also add increasing levels of locally generated renewable resources as these projects are developed and customer energy needs expand.
- F. The Parties desire to establish a separate public agency, known as the Valley Clean Energy Alliance or VCEA, under the provisions of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the State of California (Government Code Section 6500 et seq.) ("Act") in order to collectively study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy programs.
- G. The Parties anticipate adopting an ordinance electing to implement through the VCEA a common Community Choice Energy (CCE) program (also known as a community choice aggregation (CCA) program) hereinafter called a CCE Program, an electric service enterprise available to cities and counties pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Sections 331.1(b) and 366.2. The first priority of the VCEA will be the consideration of those actions necessary to implement the CCE Program.

## **AGREEMENT**

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions hereinafter set forth, it is agreed by and among the Parties as follows:

### **ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS AND EXHIBITS**

- 1.1 Definitions. Capitalized terms used in the Agreement shall have the meanings specified in Exhibit A, unless the context requires otherwise.
- 1.2 Documents Included. This Agreement consists of this document and the following exhibits, all of which are hereby incorporated into this Agreement.

Exhibit A: Definitions  
Exhibit B: List of the Parties  
Exhibit C: Annual Energy Use  
Exhibit D: Voting Shares  
Exhibit E: Signatures

## ARTICLE 2: FORMATION OF VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

- 2.1 Effective Date and Term. This Agreement shall become effective and VCEA shall exist as a separate public agency on October 25, 2016, or when the County and the City execute this Agreement, whichever occurs later. The VCEA shall provide notice to the Parties of the Effective Date. VCEA shall continue to exist, and this Agreement shall be effective, until this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Section 6.4, subject to the rights of the Parties to withdraw from VCEA.
- 2.2 Formation. There is formed as of the Effective Date a public agency named Valley Clean Energy Alliance. Pursuant to Sections 6506 and 6507 of the Act, VCEA is a public agency separate from the Parties. Pursuant to Sections 6508.1 of the Act, the debts, liabilities or obligations of VCEA shall not be debts, liabilities or obligations of the individual Parties unless the governing board of a Party agrees in writing to assume any of the debts, liabilities or obligations of VCEA. A Party who has not agreed to assume an VCEA debt, liability or obligation shall not be responsible in any way for such debt, liability or obligation even if a majority of the Parties agree to assume the debt, liability or obligation of VCEA. Notwithstanding Section 7.4 of this Agreement, this Section 2.2 may not be amended unless such amendment is approved by the governing board of each Party.
- 2.2.1 Name. VCEA may change its name at any time through adoption of a resolution of the Board of Directors.
- 2.3 Purpose. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish an independent public agency in order to exercise powers common to each Party to build a strong CCE program that achieves deep, long-term GHG emission reductions by offering clean, cost effective and price stable electricity to residents, businesses, and agricultural producers while carrying out innovative programs to reduce customer energy use, substantially increase local renewable energy production, and power the local transportation system. To that end, VCEA will study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy, energy efficiency and conservation, and other energy-related programs, and to exercise all other powers necessary and incidental to accomplishing this purpose. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Parties intend for this Agreement to be used as a contractual mechanism by which the Parties are authorized to participate in the CCE Program, as further described in Section 4.1. The Parties intend that other agreements shall define the terms and conditions associated with the implementation of the CCE Program and any other energy programs approved by VCEA.

2.4 Membership in VCEA.

2.4.1 The initial members of VCEA are the County of Yolo and the City of Davis. The Cities of Woodland, West Sacramento and Winters may also become initial members of VCEA by resolution of the city's city council adopted prior to the Effective Date.

2.4.2 Any city or county, that is not an initial member, may request to become a member of VCEA by submitting a resolution adopted by its City Council or Board of Supervisors to the Board of VCEA. The Board shall review the request and shall vote to approve or disapprove the request. The Board may establish conditions, including but not limited to financial conditions, under which the city or county may become a member of VCEA. The Board shall notify the then members of VCEA of this request and the date that the request will be on the Board's meeting agenda for action. The date set for Board action shall be at least forty-five (45) days from the date the notice is mailed to the members. If the request is approved by the Board, the city or county shall become a member of VCEA under the terms and conditions set forth by the Board and upon approval and execution of this Agreement by the city or county.

2.5 Powers. VCEA shall have all powers common to the Parties and such additional powers accorded to it by law. VCEA is authorized, in its own name, to exercise all powers and do all acts necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this Agreement and fulfill its purposes, including, but not limited to, each of the following powers, subject to the voting requirements set forth in Section 3.7 through 3.7.5:

2.5.1 to make and enter into contracts;

2.5.2 to employ agents and employees, including but not limited to an Executive Officer;

2.5.3 to acquire, contract, manage, maintain, and operate any buildings, infrastructure, works, or improvements;

2.5.4 to acquire property by eminent domain, or otherwise, except as limited under Section 6508 of the Act, and to hold or dispose of any property; however, VCEA shall not exercise the power of eminent domain within the jurisdiction of a Party over its objection without first meeting and conferring in good faith.

2.5.5 to lease any property;

2.5.6 to sue and be sued in its own name;

- 2.5.7 to incur debts, liabilities, and obligations, including but not limited to loans from private lending sources pursuant to its temporary borrowing powers such as Government Code Sections 53850 et seq. and authority under the Act;
  - 2.5.8 to form subsidiary or independent corporations or entities if necessary, to carry out energy supply and energy conservation programs at the lowest possible cost or to take advantage of legislative or regulatory changes;
  - 2.5.9 to issue revenue bonds and other forms of indebtedness;
  - 2.5.10 to apply for, accept, and receive all licenses, permits, grants, loans or other aids from any federal, state, or local public agency;
  - 2.5.11 to submit documentation and notices, register, and comply with orders, tariffs and agreements for the establishment and implementation of the CCE Program and other energy programs;
  - 2.5.12 to adopt Operating Rules and Regulations;
  - 2.5.13 to make and enter into service agreements relating to the provision of services necessary to plan, implement, operate and administer the CCE Program and other energy programs, including the acquisition of electric power supply and the provision of retail and regulatory support services; and
  - 2.5.14 to permit additional Parties to enter into this Agreement after the Effective Date and to permit another entity authorized to be a community choice aggregator to designate VCEA to act as the community choice energy aggregator on its behalf.
- 2.6 Limitation on Powers. As required by Government Code Section 6509, the power of VCEA is subject to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising power possessed by City of Davis.

**ARTICLE 3: GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION**

- 3.1 Board of Directors. VCEA shall be governed by a legislative body known as the a Board of Directors (“Board”). The Initial Board shall consist of two (2) directors appointed by each of the initial members; for example, if the initial members are the County of Yolo and the City of Davis, the board shall be four (4) directors with two (2) directors appointed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors and two (2) directors appointed by the City Council of Davis. Each Director shall serve at the pleasure of the governing board of the Party who appointed such Director, and may be removed as Director by such governing

board at any time. If at any time a vacancy occurs on the Board, a replacement shall be appointed to fill the position of the previous Director within 60 days of the date that such position becomes vacant. Directors must be members of the Board of Supervisors or members of the City Council of the appointing City that is the signatory to this Agreement. Each Party may appoint an alternate(s) to serve in the absence of its Director(s). Alternates may be either (1) members of the Board of Supervisors or (2) members of the governing board of the municipality that is the signatory to this Agreement.

If additional cities or counties join VCEA, as set forth in section 2.4, each city or county that becomes a member of VCEA shall be entitled to two (2) directors who shall be appointed as set forth above. When the fifth member joins VCEA, the number of directors per member agency of all current member agencies shall be reduced to one (1) director per member agency.

- 3.1.1 Ex officio Directors. The Board may appoint ex officio members of the Board. Ex officio directors shall receive all meeting notices, shall have the right to participate in Board discussions and the right to place items on the agenda but shall not be counted towards a quorum and shall have no vote.
- 3.2 Quorum. A majority of the appointed Directors shall constitute a quorum, except that less than a quorum may adjourn from time to time in accordance with law.
- 3.3 Powers and Functions of the Board. The Board shall exercise general governance and oversight over the business and activities of VCEA, consistent with this Agreement and applicable law. The Board shall provide general policy guidance to the CCE Program. Board approval shall be required for any of the following actions:
  - 3.3.1 The issuance of bonds or any other financing even if program revenues are expected to pay for such financing.
  - 3.3.2 The appointment or termination of the Executive Officer and General Counsel.
  - 3.3.3 The appointment or removal of officers described in Section 3.9, subject to Section 3.9.3.
  - 3.3.4 Any decision to provide retirement or post-retirement benefits that are defined benefit programs, subject to the requirements of section 5.3.4, below.
  - 3.3.5 The adoption of the Annual Budget.

- 3.3.6 The adoption of an ordinance.
  - 3.3.7 The approval of agreements, except as provided by Section 3.4.
  - 3.3.8 The initiation or resolution of claims and litigation where VCEA will be the defendant, plaintiff, petitioner, respondent, cross complainant or cross petitioner, or intervenor; provided, however, that the Executive Officer or General Counsel, on behalf of VCEA, may intervene in, become a party to, or file comments with respect to any proceeding pending at the California Public Utilities Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or any other administrative agency, without approval of the Board as long as such action is consistent with any adopted Board policies.
  - 3.3.9 The setting of rates for power sold by VCEA and the setting of charges for any other category of service provided by VCEA.
  - 3.3.10 Termination of the CCE Program.
- 3.4 Executive Officer. The Board of Directors shall appoint an Executive Officer for VCEA, who shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of VCEA and the CCE Program. The Executive Officer may be retained under contract with VCEA, be an employee of VCEA, or be an employee of one of the Parties. The Executive Officer shall report directly to the Board and serve as staff to VCEA. Except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, the Executive Officer may exercise all powers of VCEA, including the power to hire, discipline and terminate employees as well as the power to approve any agreement if the total amount payable under the agreement is less than \$100,000 in any fiscal year, or such higher amount as established by the Board from time to time, by resolution of the Board, except the powers specifically set forth in Section 3.3 or those powers which by law must be exercised by the Board of Directors. The Executive Officer shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.
- 3.5 Commissions, Boards, and Committees. The Board may establish commissions, boards or committees, including but not limited to a standing executive committee of the Board, as the Board deems appropriate, to assist the Board in carrying out its authority and functions under this Agreement and may delegate authority to such commission, board or committee as set forth in a Board resolution. Such delegation may be modified, amended or revoked as any time as the Board may deem appropriate. Any decision delegated pursuant to this subsection may be appealed to the Board, as the Board so determines.
- 3.5.1 The Board may also establish any advisory commissions, boards, and committees as the Board deems appropriate to assist the Board in carrying

out its functions and implementing the CCE Program, other energy programs and the provisions of this Agreement.

3.5.2 Any board, commission or committee formed under this section shall comply with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. The Board may establish rules, regulations, policies, bylaws or procedures to govern any such commissions, boards, or committees, and shall determine whether members shall be compensated or entitled to reimbursement for expenses.

3.6 Director Compensation. Directors shall serve without compensation from VCEA. However, Directors may be compensated by their respective appointing authorities. The Board, however, may adopt by resolution a policy relating to the reimbursement by VCEA of expenses incurred by Directors.

3.7 Voting. In general, as described below in Section 3.7.3, action by VCEA Board will be taken solely by a majority vote of the total number of Directors present; provided, however, that so long as VCEA consists of three or less members, all actions of the Board shall require the affirmative vote of at least one director appointed by each member. In addition, as described below in Section 3.7.4, upon request of two (2) Directors each from a different member agency, a weighted vote by shares will also be conducted. When such a request is made, an action must be approved by both a majority vote of Directors present and a majority of the weighted vote by shares present. No action may be approved solely by a vote by shares. The voting shares of Directors and approval requirements for actions of the Board shall be as follows:

3.7.1 Voting Shares.

Each member agency shall have a voting share as determined by the following formula: (Annual Energy Use/Total Annual Energy) multiplied by 100, where

- (a) “Annual Energy Use” means, (i) with respect to the first two (2) years following the Effective Date, the annual electricity usage, expressed in kilowatt hours (“kWh”), within the Party’s respective jurisdiction and (ii) with respect to the period after the second anniversary of the Effective Date, the annual electricity usage during the prior Fiscal Year, expressed in kWh, of accounts within a Party’s respective jurisdiction that are served by VCEA; and
- (b) “Total Annual Energy” means the sum of all Parties’ Annual Energy Use. The initial values for Annual Energy Use will be designated in Exhibit C, and shall be adjusted annually as soon as



reasonably practicable after January 1, but no later than March 1 of each year. These adjustments shall be approved by the Board.

- (c) The combined voting share of all Directors representing a member agency shall be based upon the annual electricity usage within the member agency's jurisdiction; the combined voting share of a county shall be based upon the annual electricity usage within the unincorporated area of the county.

For the purposes of Weighted Voting, if a member agency has more than one director present and voting, then the voting shares allocated to the entity shall be equally divided amongst its Directors that are present and voting.

- 3.7.2 Exhibit Showing Voting Shares. The initial voting shares will be set forth in Exhibit D. Exhibit D shall be revised no less than annually as necessary to account for changes in the number of Parties and changes in the Parties' Annual Energy Use. Exhibit D and adjustments shall be approved by the Board.
- 3.7.3 Approval Requirements Relating to CCE Program. Except as provided in Sections 3.7 above and 3.7.4 and 3.7.5 below, action of the Board shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of Directors present at the meeting.
- 3.7.4 Option for Approval by Voting Shares. Notwithstanding Section 3.7.3, any two (2) Directors, each appointed from a different member agency, present at a meeting may demand that approval of any matter related to the CCE Program be determined on the basis of both voting shares and by the affirmative vote of a majority of Directors present at the meeting. If two Directors makes such a demand with respect to approval of any such matter, then approval of such matter shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of Directors present at the meeting and the affirmative vote of Directors having a majority of voting shares present, as determined by Section 3.7.1 except as provided in Section 3.7.5.
- 3.7.5 Special Voting Requirements for Certain Matters.
  - (a) Two-Thirds and Weighted Voting Approval Requirements Relating to Sections 6.2 and 7.4. Action of the Board on the matters set forth in Section 6.2 (involuntary termination of a Party), or Section 7.4 (amendment of this Agreement) shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of Directors present; provided, however, that (i) notwithstanding the foregoing, any two (2) Directors present at the meeting, each appointed from a

different member agency, may demand that the vote be determined on the basis of both voting shares and by the affirmative vote of Directors, and if any two (2) Directors makes such a demand, then approval shall require the affirmative vote of both at least two-thirds of Directors present and the affirmative vote of Directors having at least two-thirds of the voting shares present, as determined by Section 3.7.1; (ii) but, Directors from at least two (2) Parties must vote against a matter for the vote to fail; and (iii) for votes to involuntarily terminate a Party under Section 6.2, the Director(s) for the Party subject to involuntary termination may not vote, and the number of Directors constituting two-thirds of all Directors, and the weighted vote of each Party shall be recalculated as if the Party subject to possible termination were not a Party.

- (b) Seventy-Five Percent Special Voting Requirements for Eminent Domain and Contributions or Pledge of Assets.
  - (i) A decision to exercise the power of eminent domain on behalf of VCEA to acquire any property interest other than an easement, right-of-way, or temporary construction easement shall require a vote of at least 75% of all Directors present and voting and a vote of at least two-thirds of all the members of the Board of Directors .
  - (ii) The imposition on any Party of any obligation to make contributions or pledge assets as a condition of continued participation in the CCE Program shall require a vote of at least 75% of all Directors present and voting and the approval of the governing boards of the Parties who are being asked to make such contribution or pledge.
  - (iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any two (2) Directors present at the meeting, each appointed by a different member agency, may demand that a vote under subsections (i) or (ii) be determined on the basis of voting shares and by the affirmative vote of Directors, and if any two (2) Directors makes such a demand, then approval shall require both the affirmative vote of at least 75% of Directors present and the affirmative vote of Directors having at least 75% of the voting shares present, as determined by Section 3.7.1, but Directors from at least two (2) Parties must vote against a matter for the vote to fail. For purposes of this section, “imposition on any Party of any obligation to make

contributions or pledge assets as a condition of continued participation in the CCE Program” does not include any obligations of a withdrawing or terminated party imposed under Section 6.3.

3.8 Meetings and Special Meetings of the Board. The Board shall hold at least six (6) regular meetings per year, but the Board may provide for the holding of regular meetings at more frequent intervals. The date, hour and place of each regular meeting shall be fixed by resolution or ordinance of the Board. Regular meetings may be adjourned to another meeting time. Special and Emergency Meetings of the Board may be called in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Sections 54956 and 54956.5. Directors may participate in meetings telephonically, with full voting rights, only to the extent permitted by law. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.).

3.9 Selection of Board Officers.

3.9.1 Chair and Vice Chair. The Directors shall select, from among themselves, a Chair, who shall be the presiding officer of all Board meetings, and a Vice Chair, who shall serve in the absence of the Chair. The Chair and vice Chair shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. There shall be no limit on the number of terms held by either the Chair or Vice Chair. The office of either the Chair or Vice Chair shall be declared vacant and a new selection shall be made if:

- (a) the person serving dies, resigns, or the Party that the person represents removes the person as its representative on the Board or
- (b) the Party that he or she represents withdraws from VCEA pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement.

3.9.2 Secretary. The Board shall appoint a Secretary, who need not be a member of the Board, who shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Board and all other official records of VCEA.

3.9.3 Treasurer and Auditor. The Treasurer shall function as the combined offices of Treasurer and Auditor pursuant to Government code section 6505.6 and shall strictly comply with the statutes related to the duties and responsibilities specified in Section 65.5 of the Act. The Treasurer for VCEA shall be the depository and have custody of all money of VCEA from whatever source and shall draw all warrants and pay demands against VCEA as approved by the Board. The Treasurer shall cause an independent audit(s) of the finances of VCEA to be made by a certified public accountant, or public accountant, in compliance with Section 6505

of the Act. The Treasurer shall report directly to the Board and shall comply with the requirements of treasurers of incorporated municipalities. The Board may transfer the responsibilities of Treasurer to any person or entity as the law may provide at the time. The duties and obligations of the Treasurer are further specified in Article 5. The Treasurer shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

- 3.10 Administrative Services Provider. The Board may appoint one or more administrative services providers to serve as VCEA's agent for planning, implementing, operating and administering the CCE Program, and any other program approved by the Board, in accordance with the provisions of an Administrative Services Agreement. The appointed administrative services provider may be one of the Parties. One or more of the Parties may agree to provide all or a portion of the services in the manner set forth in an Administrative Services Agreement. Employees of the member agencies utilized to perform such services shall remain employees of the member agency and subject to the employing member agency's control and supervision. An Administrative Services Agreement shall set forth the terms and conditions by which the appointed administrative services provider shall perform or cause to be performed all or enumerated tasks necessary for planning, implementing, operating and administering the CCE Program and other approved programs. The Administrative Services Agreement shall set forth the term of the Agreement, the services to be provided, and the circumstances under which the Administrative Services Agreement may be terminated by VCEA. This section shall not in any way be construed to limit the discretion of VCEA to hire its own employees to administer the CCE Program or any other program.

#### **ARTICLE 4: IMPLEMENTATION ACTION AND VCEA DOCUMENTS**

- 4.1 Preliminary Implementation of the CCE Program.
- 4.1.1 Enabling Ordinance. To be eligible to participate in the CCE Program, each Party must adopt an ordinance in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12) for the purpose of specifying that the Party intends to implement a CCE Program by and through its participation in VCEA.
- 4.1.2 Implementation Plan. VCEA shall cause to be prepared an Implementation Plan meeting the requirements of Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 and any applicable Public Utilities Commission regulations as soon after the Effective Date as reasonably practicable. The Implementation Plan shall not be filed with the Public Utilities Commission until it is approved by the Board in the manner provided by Section 3.7.3.

- 4.1.3 Termination of CCE Program. Nothing contained in this Article or this Agreement shall be construed to limit the discretion of VCEA to terminate the implementation or operation of the CCE Program at any time in accordance with any applicable requirements of state law.
- 4.2 VCEA Documents. The Parties acknowledge and agree that the affairs of VCEA will be implemented through various documents duly adopted by the Board through Board resolution. The Parties agree to abide by and comply with the terms and conditions of all such documents that may be adopted by the Board, subject to the Parties' right to withdraw from VCEA as described in Article 6.

## **ARTICLE 5: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

- 5.1 Fiscal Year. VCEA's fiscal year shall be 12 months commencing July 1 and ending June 30. The fiscal year may be changed by Board resolution.
- 5.2 Depository.
- 5.2.1 All funds of VCEA shall be held in separate accounts in the name of VCEA and not commingled with funds of any Party or any other person or entity.
- 5.2.2 All funds of VCEA shall be strictly and separately accounted for, and regular reports shall be rendered of all receipts and disbursements, at least quarterly during the fiscal year. The books and records of VCEA shall be open to inspection by the Parties at all reasonable times. The Board shall contract with a certified public accountant or public accountant to make an annual audit of the accounts and records of VCEA, which shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 6505 of the Act.
- 5.2.3 All expenditures shall be made in accordance with the approved budget and upon the approval of any officer so authorized by the Board in accordance with its Operating Rules and Regulations. The Treasurer shall draw checks or warrants or make payments by other means for claims or disbursements not within an applicable budget only upon the prior approval of the Board.
- 5.3 Budget and Recovery of Costs.
- 5.3.1 Budget. The initial budget shall be approved by the Board. The Board may revise the budget from time to time as may be reasonably necessary to address contingencies and unexpected expenses. All subsequent budgets of VCEA shall be approved by the Board in accordance with the Operating Rules and Regulations.

- 5.3.2 Funding of Initial Costs. The County of Yolo and the City of Davis have funded certain activities necessary to implement the CCE Program. If the CCE Program becomes operational, these Initial Costs paid by the County and the City shall be included in the customer charges for electric services as provided by Section 5.3.3 to the extent recovery of such costs is permitted by law, and the County and the City shall be reimbursed from the payment of such charges by customers of VCEA. Prior to such reimbursement, the County and the City shall provide such documentation of costs paid as the Board may request. VCEA may establish a reasonable time period over which such costs are recovered. In the event that the CCE Program does not become operational, Yolo and Davis shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of the Initial Costs that have paid from VCEA or any Party. If any of the initial member agency assists in funding initial costs, that initial member shall also be entitled to reimbursement pursuant to this section.
- 5.3.3 CCE Program Costs. The Parties desire that all costs incurred by VCEA that are directly or indirectly attributable to the provision of electric, conservation, efficiency, incentives, financing, or other services provided under the CCE Program, including but not limited to the establishment and maintenance of various reserves and performance funds and administrative, accounting, legal, consulting, and other similar costs, shall be recovered through charges to CCE customers receiving such electric services, or from revenues from grants or other third-party sources.
- 5.3.4 Employee Retirement and Post-retirement benefits. Should the Board determine to provide a defined benefits retirement benefit to VCEA employees (such as PERS) or other post-retirements benefits that would be within an Other Post-Retirement Benefits (OPEB) obligation to VCEA employees, prior to providing such benefit(s) to any employee, the Board shall (1) obtain a third party independent actuarial report on the long term costs of the benefit or benefits, (2) adopt a funding plan for the payment of both current and long-term costs that provides for the payment of all such costs on a current, pay-as-you-go, basis and eliminates any known or reasonably anticipated unfunded liability associated with the benefit(s) and (3) notice all member agencies of the pending consideration of the benefit(s) together with the actuarial report and funding plan, for at least sixty (60) days and obtain the unanimous consent, by resolution, of all the Directors present and voting on the resolution. .

## **ARTICLE 6: WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION**

### **6.1 Withdrawal.**

- 6.1.1 Right to Withdraw. A Party may withdraw its participation in the CCE Program, effective as of the beginning of VCEA's fiscal year, by giving no less than 6 months advance written notice of its election to do so, which notice shall be given to VCEA and each Party. Withdrawal of a Party shall require an affirmative vote of the Party's governing board.
- 6.1.2 Right to Withdraw After Amendment. Notwithstanding Section 6.1.1, a Party may withdraw its membership in VCEA following an amendment to this Agreement adopted by the Board which the Party's Director(s) voted against provided such notice is given in writing within thirty (30) days following the date of the vote. Withdrawal of a Party shall require an affirmative vote of the Party's governing board and shall not be subject to the six month advance notice provided in Section 6.1.1. In the event of such withdrawal, the Party shall be subject to the provisions of Section 6.3.
- 6.1.3 The Right to Withdraw Prior to Program Launch. After receiving bids from power suppliers, VCEA shall provide to the Parties the report from the electrical utility consultant retained by VCEA that compares the total estimated electrical rates that VCEA will be charging to customers as well as the estimated greenhouse gas emissions rate and the amount of estimated renewable energy used with that of the incumbent utility. If the report provides that VCEA is unable to provide total electrical rates, as part of its baseline offering, to the customers that are equal to or lower than the incumbent utility or to provide power in a manner that has a lower greenhouse gas emissions rate or uses less renewable energy than the incumbent utility, a Party may immediately withdraw its membership in VCEA without any financial obligation, as long as the Party provides written notice of its intent to withdraw to VCEA Board no more than fifteen (15) days after receiving the report. Any withdrawing Party shall not be entitled to any return of funds provided to VCEA, provided, however, that if, after the program is launched there an unobligated and unused funds, the withdrawing member shall be refunded its pro rata share of the unobligated and unused funds.
- 6.1.4 Continuing Financial Obligation; Further Assurances. Except as provided by Section 6.1.3, a Party that withdraws its participation in the CCE Program may be subject to certain continuing financial obligations, as described in Section 6.3. Each withdrawing Party and VCEA shall execute and deliver all further instruments and documents, and take any further action that may be reasonably necessary, as determined by the Board, to effectuate the orderly withdrawal of such Party from participation in the CCE Program.

- 6.2 Involuntary Termination of a Party. Participation of a Party in the CCE Program may be terminated for material non-compliance with provisions of this Agreement or any other agreement relating to the Party's participation in the CCE Program upon a vote of Board members as provided in Section 3.7.5. Prior to any vote to terminate participation with respect to a Party, written notice of the proposed termination and the reason(s) for such termination shall be delivered to the Party whose termination is proposed at least thirty (30) days prior to the regular Board meeting at which such matter shall first be discussed as an agenda item. The written notice of proposed termination shall specify the particular provisions of this Agreement or other agreement that the Party has allegedly violated. The Party subject to possible termination shall have the opportunity at the next regular Board meeting to respond to any reasons and allegations that may be cited as a basis for termination prior to a vote regarding termination. A Party that has had its participation in the CCE Program terminated may be subject to certain continuing liabilities, as described in Section 6.3.
- 6.3 Continuing Financial Obligations; Refund. Except as provided by Section 6.1.3, upon a withdrawal or involuntary termination of a Party, the Party shall remain responsible for any claims, demands, damages, or other financial obligations arising from the Party membership or participation in the CCE Program through the date of its withdrawal or involuntary termination, it being agreed that the Party shall not be responsible for any financial obligations arising after the date of the Party's withdrawal or involuntary termination. Claims, demands, damages, or other financial obligations for which a withdrawing or terminated Party may remain liable include, but are not limited to, losses from the resale of power contracted for by VCEA to serve the Party's load and any unfunded liabilities such as unfunded retirement contributions or costs and any unfunded post-retirement benefits. With respect to such financial obligations, upon notice by a Party that it wishes to withdraw from the CCE Program, VCEA shall notify the Party of the minimum waiting period under which the Party would have no costs for withdrawal if the Party agrees to stay in the CCE Program for such period. The waiting period will be set to the minimum duration such that there are no costs transferred to remaining ratepayers. If the Party elects to withdraw before the end of the minimum waiting period, the charge for withdrawal shall be set at a dollar amount that would offset actual costs to the remaining ratepayers, and may not include punitive charges that exceed actual costs. In addition, such Party shall also be responsible for any costs or obligations associated with the Party's participation in any program in accordance with the provisions of any agreements relating to such program provided such costs or obligations were incurred prior to the withdrawal of the Party. VCEA may withhold funds otherwise owing to the Party or may require the Party to deposit sufficient funds with VCEA, as reasonably determined by VCEA and approved by a vote of the Board of Directors, to cover the Party's financial obligations for the costs described above. Any amount of the Party's funds held on deposit with VCEA above that which is



required to pay any financial obligations shall be returned to the Party. If there is a disagreement related to the charge(s) for withdrawal or exiting, the Parties shall attempt to settle the amount through mediation or other dispute resolution process as authorized by section 7.1. If the dispute is not resolved, the Parties may agree in writing to proceed to arbitration, or any party may seek judicial review. The liability of any Party under this section 6.3 is subject and subordinate to the provisions of Section 2.2, and nothing in this section 6.3 shall reduce, impair, or eliminate any immunity from liability provided by Section 2.2.

- 6.4 Mutual Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement of all the Parties; provided, however, the foregoing shall not be construed as limiting the rights of a Party to withdraw its participation in the CCE Program, as described in Section 6.1.
- 6.5 Disposition of Property upon Termination of VCEA. Upon termination of this Agreement, any surplus money or assets in possession of VCEA for use under this Agreement, after payment of all liabilities, costs, expenses, and charges incurred under this Agreement and under any program documents, shall be returned to the then-existing Parties in proportion to the contributions made by each.

#### **ARTICLE 7: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

- 7.1 Dispute Resolution. The Parties and VCEA shall make reasonable efforts to informally settle all disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Should such informal efforts to settle a dispute, after reasonable efforts, fail, the dispute shall be mediated in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Board.
- 7.2 Liability of Directors, Officers, and Employees. The Directors, officers, and employees of VCEA shall use ordinary care and reasonable diligence in the exercise of their powers and in the performance of their duties pursuant to this Agreement. No current or former Director, officer, or employee will be responsible for any act or omission by another Director, officer, or employee. VCEA shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the individual current and former Directors, officers, and employees for any acts or omissions in the scope of their employment or duties in the manner provided by Government Code Sections 995 et seq. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the defenses and immunities available under the law, to the Parties, VCEA, or its Directors, officers, or employees.
- 7.3 Indemnification of Parties. VCEA shall acquire such insurance coverage as is necessary to protect the interests of VCEA, the Parties, and the public. VCEA shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Parties and each of their respective Board or Council members, officers, agents and employees, from any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, injuries, and liabilities of every kind arising

directly or indirectly from the conduct, activities, operations, acts, and omissions of VCEA under this Agreement.

- 7.4 Amendment of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be amended except by a written amendment approved by a vote of Board members as provided in Section 3.7.5. VCEA shall provide written notice to all Parties of amendments to this Agreement, including the effective date of such amendments, at least 30 days prior to the date upon which the Board votes on such amendments.
- 7.5 Assignment. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, the rights and duties of the Parties may not be assigned or delegated without the advance written consent of all of the other Parties, and any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Section 7.5 shall be null and void. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and assigns of the Parties. This Section 7.5 does not prohibit a Party from entering into an independent agreement with another agency, person, or entity regarding the financing of that Party's contributions to VCEA, or the disposition of proceeds which that Party receives under this Agreement, so long as such independent agreement does not affect, or purport to affect, the rights and duties of VCEA or the Parties under this Agreement.
- 7.6 Severability. If one or more clauses, sentences, paragraphs or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be unlawful, invalid or unenforceable, it is hereby agreed by the Parties, that the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby. Such clauses, sentences, paragraphs or provision shall be deemed reformed so as to be lawful, valid and enforced to the maximum extent possible.
- 7.7 Further Assurances. Each Party agrees to execute and deliver all further instruments and documents, and take any further action that may be reasonably necessary, to effectuate the purposes and intent of this Agreement.
- 7.8 Execution by Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and upon execution by all Parties, each executed counterpart shall have the same force and effect as an original instrument and as if all Parties had signed the same instrument. Any signature page of this Agreement may be detached from any counterpart of this Agreement without impairing the legal effect of any signatures thereon, and may be attached to another counterpart of this Agreement identical in form hereto but having attached to it one or more signature pages.
- 7.9 Parties to be Served Notice. Any notice authorized or required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be validly given if served in writing either personally, by deposit in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid with return receipt requested, or by a recognized courier service. Notices given (a) personally or by courier service shall be conclusively deemed received at the time

of delivery and receipt and (b) by mail shall be conclusively deemed given 48 hours after the deposit thereof (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) if the sender receives the return receipt. All notices shall be addressed to the office of the clerk or secretary of VCEA or Party, as the case may be, or such other person designated in writing by VCEA or Party. Notices given to one Party shall be copied to all other Parties. Notices given to VCEA shall be copied to all Parties.

CITY:

CITY OF DAVIS, a California municipal corporation

By: Robb Davis  
Robb Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: Zoe Mirabile  
Zoe Mirabile



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: Harriet A. Steiner  
Harriet A. Steiner, City Attorney

COUNTY:

COUNTY OF YOLO

By: Jim Provenza  
Jim Provenza, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Julie Dachtler, Deputy Clerk  
Board of Supervisors

By: Julie Dachtler  
Deputy (Seal)



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Philip Pogledich, County Counsel

By: Eric May  
Eric May, Senior Deputy County Counsel

## **EXHIBIT A DEFINITIONS**

“Act” means the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the State of California (Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.*)

“Administrative Services Agreement” means an agreement or agreements entered into after the Effective Date by VCEA with an entity that will perform tasks necessary for planning, implementing, operating and/or administering the CCE Program, or any portion of the CCE Program or any other energy programs adopted by VCEA.

“Agreement” means this Joint Powers Agreement.

“Alliance” or “Authority” or “VCEA” means the Valley Clean Energy Alliance.

“Annual Energy Use” has the meaning given in Section 3.7.1.

“Board” means the Board of Directors of VCEA.

“CCE” or “Community Choice Energy” or “CCA” or “Community Choice Aggregation” means an electric service option available to cities and counties pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 366.2.

“CCE Program” or “CCA Program” means VCEA’s program relating to CCE that is principally described in Sections 2.3, 2.4, and 4.1.

“Director” means a member of the Board of Directors representing a Party.

“Effective Date” means October 25, 2016 or when initial members of VCEA, including but not limited to the County of Yolo and the City of Davis execute this Agreement, whichever occurs later, as further described in Section 2.1.

“Implementation Plan” means the plan generally described in Section 4.1.2 of this Agreement that is required under Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 to be filed with the California Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of describing a proposed CCE Program.

“Initial Costs” means all costs incurred by the County, the City and/or VCEA relating to the establishment and initial operation of VCEA, such as the hiring of an Executive Officer and any administrative staff, and any required accounting, administrative, technical, or legal services in support of VCEA’s initial activities or in support of the negotiation, preparation, and approval of one or more Administrative Services Agreements.

“Operating Rules and Regulations” means the rules, regulations, policies, bylaws and procedures governing the operation of VCEA.

“Parties” or “Members” means, collectively, the County, the City of Davis and any city or county which executes this Agreement.

## Exhibit A

“Party”, “Member” or “Member Agency” means a signatory to this Agreement.

“Total Annual Energy” has the meaning given in Section 3.7.1.

“VCEA Document(s)” means document(s) duly adopted by the Board by resolution or motion implementing the powers, functions, and activities of VCEA, including but not limited to the Operating Rules and Regulations, the annual budget, and plans and policies.

**EXHIBIT B  
LIST OF PARTIES**

Parties: County of Yolo  
City of Davis

**EXHIBIT C**  
**ANNUAL ENERGY USE / VOTING SHARES**

Unincorporated Yolo County	318,300,165 KWh
Davis	284,129,391 KWh