



# SILICON VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

## 2021 SUPPLIER DIVERSITY REPORT



February 25, 2022

Page intentionally left blank

## Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.1.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.2.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.3.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.5.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.6.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.9.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>SECTION 9.1.11.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>SECTION 10.1.2.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>APPENDIX A SVCE’S VOLUNTARY SUPPLIER DIVERSITY SURVEY.....</b>	<b>24</b>

## INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to General Order 156, Sections 9 and 10, Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) hereby submits its 2021 Annual Report on the Utilization of Women, Minority, Disabled, Veteran, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprises (WMDVLGBTBE) and planned activities for 2022.

### About Silicon Valley Clean Energy

SVCE is a community-owned agency serving the majority of Santa Clara County communities, acquiring clean, carbon-free electricity on behalf of more than 270,000 residential and commercial customers. As a public agency, net revenues are returned to the community to keep rates competitive and promote clean energy programs. Member jurisdictions include Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Saratoga, Sunnyvale and unincorporated Santa Clara County. SVCE is guided by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of a representative from the governing body of each member community. For general information on SVCE, please visit: <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/>.

### Representation within SVCE leadership

The SVCE Board of Directors reflects the diversity of the member communities they represent in the South Bay Area. Half of SVCE's 26 Board of Directors are people of color and over half are women, including its current Board Chair.

SVCE places a priority in fostering a diverse and inclusive environment for its staff. As with its Board, the SVCE leadership team at the staff-level includes diverse representation. Four of the six members of SVCE's leadership team are people of color, including its CEO and CFO. One-third of its leadership team are women.

### SVCE Executive Leadership



Girish Balachandran  
Chief Executive Officer



Amrit Singh  
Chief Financial  
Officer/Director of  
Administrative Services



Don Bray  
Director of Account  
Services & Community  
Relations



Melicia Charles  
Director of Regulatory  
and Legislative Policy



Monica Padilla  
Director of Power  
Resources



Justin Zagunis  
Director of  
Decarbonization and  
Grid Innovation  
Programs

**SVCE Board of Directors**



Chair Liz Gibbons  
City of Campbell



Sergio Lopez  
City of Campbell  
*Alternate*



Vice Chair Margaret  
Abe-Koga  
City of Mountain View



Lisa Matichak  
City of Mountain View  
*Alternate*



Jon Willey  
City of Cupertino



Hung Wei  
City of Cupertino  
*Alternate*



Zach Hilton  
City of Gilroy



Rebeca Armendariz  
City of Gilroy  
*Alternate*



Neysa Fligor  
City of Los Altos



Sally Meadows  
City of Los Altos  
*Alternate*



George Tyson  
Town of Los Altos Hills



Lisa Schmidt  
Town of Los Altos Hills  
*Alternate*



Rob Rennie  
Town of Los Gatos



Marico Sayoc  
Town of Los Gatos  
*Alternate*



Evelyn Chua  
City of Milpitas



Elaine Marshall  
City of Milpitas  
*Alternate*



Javed Ellahie  
City of Monte Sereno



Bryan Mekechuk  
City of Monte Sereno  
*Alternate*



Yvonne Martinez  
Beltran  
City of Morgan Hill



John McKay  
City of Morgan Hill  
*Alternate*



Tina Walia  
City of Saratoga



Rishi Kumar  
City of Saratoga  
*Alternate*



Larry Klein  
City of Sunnyvale



Gustav Larsson  
City of Sunnyvale  
*Alternate*



Otto Lee  
Santa Clara County

Vacant

Santa Clara County  
*Alternate*

SVCE is committed to inclusivity within its workforce, its supply chain and for its customers. The specific SVCE initiatives related to diversity and equity are described below.

## Section 9.1.1

### INTERNAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

#### Supplier Diversity Activities

SVCE currently has 7 of its 27 staff who allocate a portion of their time to supplier diversity activities. This staff includes the Director of Legislative and Regulatory Policy, Director of Account Services and Community Relations, Director of Decarbonization and Grid Innovation, the Administrative Services Manager and members of the Legislative and Regulatory Policy, Power Resources, Account Services and Community Relations, and Administrative Services teams. Supplier diversity activities include procurement, collecting data on WMDVLGBTBE, reporting on WMDVLGBTBE activities.

In addition to actions described above, SVCE staff endeavored to expand its supplier diversity outreach and establish best practices for contracting with diverse suppliers. These activities included discussions with other CCAs and the CPUC to share opportunities and challenges related to supplier diversity, meeting with SVCE member agencies to discuss supplier diversity and equity issues, outreach to local ethnic chambers of commerce, and outreach to community-based organizations.

#### Statutory Limitations of Proposition 209

Pursuant to Proposition 209, “the State” cannot “discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting.”<sup>1</sup> As a public agency, SVCE and other CCAs are included in the definition of “the State” according to statute.<sup>2</sup> As such, CCAs are prohibited from giving preferential treatment to diverse suppliers within our procurement efforts.

In partnership with other CCAs, SVCE is currently in the process of retaining outside counsel to understand its legal limitations and rights under Proposition 209.

#### Equity is a Key Organizational Priority

SVCE’s focus on equity guides and informs activities of all departments throughout the agency, including operational and power procurement decisions, as well as the programs offered to SVCE customers and initiatives related to decarbonization and grid innovation.

#### Equity is a Pillar in SVCE’s Decarbonization Strategy & Programs Activities

In December 2018, SVCE adopted the Decarbonization Strategy & Programs Roadmap,<sup>3</sup> which was developed via an extensive stakeholder engagement process that incorporated perspectives from across the community and industry. The Roadmap set long-term, community-wide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets; established a strategic framework that includes prioritization criteria for evaluating programmatic opportunities; and, identified near-term program priorities. “Equity in Service” is one of the five prioritization criteria adopted in the Roadmap and, as mentioned above, guides all SVCE program design, development, deployment and evaluation activities.

<sup>1</sup> California Constitution’s Declaration of Rights Section 31(a).

<sup>2</sup> California Constitution’s Declaration of Rights Section 31(f).

<sup>3</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/SVCERoadmap/>



In 2021, SVCE developed an Equity Framework to guide future program design. The framework was informed by resources created by equity-focused organizations, as well as conversations with energy program staff with experience supporting underserved populations. Core principles identified to address equity include strengthening community engagement, increasing use of equity metrics, and creating feedback loops to adapt program design. As of February 2022, the framework is in its final stages and plans for implementation are underway.

## EXTERNAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

### Data Collection

As a community choice aggregator, the vast majority of SVCE's operating budget (92%) is allocated to power supply and purchasing. SVCE endeavors to gain more visibility into the demographics of its supply chain. For the purposes of this report, SVCE requested participants disclose whether they are a diverse business enterprise in addition to requesting other related information. As discussed above, SVCE does not give preferential treatment to WMDVLGBTBE, but does use this data for information and reporting purposes. A copy of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

### Understanding SVCE Customers

One of SVCE's strategic planning goals is to empower customers with the awareness, knowledge and resources needed to make effective clean energy choices. Understanding its customer base is critical to program and rate design. To gain a more nuanced understanding of its more vulnerable customers, in 2021, SVCE completed an Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Infrastructure Baseline Study<sup>4</sup> to gain a similar data-driven understanding of transportation electrification in the SVCE territory, which also included a section on equity.

### Program Pilots to Support the Climate Workforce & Low-Income Communities

In 2019, the Innovation Onramp program<sup>5</sup> was launched to leverage SVCE's unique position to engage and support the innovation ecosystem in addressing key technical, market and policy barriers to achieving its deep decarbonization goals. The program leverages the same strategic framework adopted in SVCE's Decarbonization Strategy & Programs Roadmap to evaluate and prioritize pilot selection, which includes "Equity in Service" as one of the five evaluation criteria. In 2021, SVCE partnered with 13 startups, provided over half a million dollars in pilot partner co-funding and awarded \$1.1 million in grants.

Through the Innovation Onramp program, SVCE has provided grant funding to launch several innovative pilots to support the climate workforce and low-income communities. Several of the pilots listed below are developed and implemented by minority, LGBTQ and/or female-led companies.

- The SVCE Data Hive<sup>6</sup> pilot with UtilityAPI, a minority and LGBTQ-led business, is a tool to provide free, streamlined, instant access to authorized customer data. Small businesses such as solar and storage installers can use the tool to request access to customer data, which is

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/EV-and-EVI-Baseline-Study.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://data.svcleanenergy.org/>

needed to generate a quote and monitor ongoing system performance. The platform includes a dashboard that is designed specifically to support ease-of-use for small, local businesses that may not have technical staff in-house.

- Two pilots aimed to provide reliable and affordable charging access to apartment and condominium residents. The pilot with EVmatch<sup>7</sup>, whose founder and CEO is female, tested their reservation-based software platform for shared charging for multi-unit dwelling tenants. The pilot with Ecology Action<sup>8</sup> demonstrated a low-power charging technology and business model designed specifically for affordable housing communities.
- The pilot with Extensible Energy and Community Energy Labs, whose founder and CEO is female, demonstrated that load management technology can reduce electricity costs and enable schools to cost-effectively install battery back-up and serve as community resilience centers.
- The pilot with Outthink provided e-bikes to four income-qualified residents and implemented low-cost streetscape modifications to demonstrate the benefits and challenges of mode shifting and active transportation.
- The pilot with SPAN, a minority-led business, aims to investigate how smart electrical panels can streamline residential solar and storage installations, facilitate household electrification and provide grid services.

### Solar and Storage in Disadvantaged Communities

SVCE contracted with Sunrun, a residential solar and storage company whose co-founder and CEO is female, for capacity and resilience from behind-the-meter battery storage and solar installations. Half of the capacity is targeted to come from installations at multi-family properties to benefit customers living in disadvantaged communities or enrolled in low-income assistance (CARE, FERA) or medical baseline programs. The installations will take place through 2022. The program is expected to benefit thousands of customers, particularly during future iterations of the Public Safety Power Shutoff events that began in 2019.

Further, SVCE has executed a long-term power purchase agreement for a solar-plus-storage project located in disadvantaged communities in Kings County. SVCE's purchase of solar energy generated from this project will deliver renewable power to SVCE's customers, while improving air quality, and providing economic benefits to the communities within the project's region.

---

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation-evmatch/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation-ecologyaction/>

**9.1.2 WMDVLGBTBE Annual Results by Ethnicity**

The tables below provide information on SVCE’s WMDVLGBTBE annual results. In 2021, SVCE saw a 63% increase in supplier diversity spend largely due to new contracts with women business enterprises.

It should be noted that SVCE’s supplier diversity activities are shared with PG&E, because SVCE customers pay roughly 39% of all generation charges to PG&E for its legacy supply contracts through the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment or PCIA fee, including power supply contracts for which SVCE customers pay PG&E. SVCE also pays PG&E for customer billing. Those numbers are not reflected in this report.

			2021			
			Direct	Sub	Total \$	%
1	<b>Minority Male</b>	Asian Pacific American	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500	0.05%
2		African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
3		Hispanic American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
4		Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
5		Total Minority Male	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500	0.05%
6	<b>Minority Female</b>	Asian Pacific American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
7		African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
8		Hispanic American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
9		Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
10		Total Minority Female	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
11	Total Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)		\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500	0.05%
12	Women Business Enterprise (WBE)		\$228,567	\$0	\$228,567	1.87%
13	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)		\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
14	Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)		\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
15	Other 8(a)*		\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
16	<b>TOTAL WMDVLGBTBE</b>		<b>\$235,067</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$235,067</b>	<b>1.93%</b>
17	<b>Net Procurement**</b>		<b>\$12,196,228</b>			

**9.1.2 WMDVLGBTBE Direct Procurement by Product and Service Categories**

In 2021, SVCE entered into service agreements with four different WMDVLGBTBE vendors, one of which qualify as Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and three as Women Business Enterprises (WBEs). One previous vendor providing services did not recertify with the Supplier Clearinghouse, and is no longer included. Vistar Energy is an Asian-owned, Bay Area consulting firm that helps develop and launch customer pilot programs. The three WBEs include two previous contractors: Gridwell Consulting, a small Sacramento-based consultancy providing electricity market and power project analysis, along with Strategic Energy Innovations, a San Rafael-based environmental nonprofit assisting SVCE with temporary staffing services through the California Climate Corps program, along with a new supplier – Ecology Action, which provides program support consulting.

				Products		Services		Total	
				\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
1	<b>Minority Male</b>	Asian Pacific American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$6,500	0.05%	\$6,500	0.05%
2		African American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
3		Hispanic American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
4		Native American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
5		Total Minority Male	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$6,500	0.05%	\$6,500	0.05%
6	<b>Minority Female</b>	Asian Pacific American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
7		African American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
8		Hispanic American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
9		Native American	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
10		Total Minority Female	Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
11	Total Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)		Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$6,500	0.05%	\$6,500	0.05%
12	Women Business Enterprise (WBE)		Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$228,567	1.87%	\$228,567	1.87%
13	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)		Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
14	Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)		Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
15	Other 8(a)*		Direct	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
16	<b>TOTAL WMDVLGBTBE</b>		<b>Direct</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$235,067</b>	<b>1.93%</b>	<b>\$235,067</b>	<b>1.93%</b>

17	<b>Total Product Procurement</b>	\$324,669
18	<b>Total Service Procurement</b>	\$11,871,559
19	<b>Net Procurement**</b>	<b>\$12,196,228</b>
20	<b>Total Number of WMDVLGBTBEs that Received Direct Spend</b>	4

### 9.1.2 WMDVLGBTBE Subcontractor Procurement by Product and Service Categories

SVCE’s 2021 contracts did not explicitly reference the CPUC Utility Supplier Diversity Program and Clearinghouse Certification and no respondents to the survey affirmed that they used diverse suppliers.

				Products		Services		Total	
				\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
1	<b>Minority Male</b>	Asian Pacific American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
2		African American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
3		Hispanic American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
4		Native American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
5		Total Minority Male	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
6	<b>Minority Female</b>	Asian Pacific American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
7		African American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
8		Hispanic American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
9		Native American	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
10		Total Minority Female	Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
11	Total Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)		Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
12	Women Business Enterprise (WBE)		Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
13	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)		Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
14	Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)		Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
15	Other 8(a)*		Sub	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
16	<b>TOTAL WMDVLGBTBE</b>		<b>Sub</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
17	<b>Total Product Procurement</b>							\$324,669	
18	<b>Total Service Procurement</b>							\$11,871,559	
19	<b>Net Procurement**</b>							<b>\$12,196,228</b>	

9.1.2 WMDVLGBTBE Procurement by Standard Industrial Categories

SIC Category		Asian Pacific American		African American		Hispanic American		Native American		MBE	WBE	LGBTBE	DVBE	Other 8(a)**	Total WMDVLGBTBE
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female						
7389 - Business Services, NEC	\$										\$96,750				\$96,750
	%										41.2%				41.2%
8742 - Management Consulting Services	\$										\$42,037				\$42,037
	%										17.9%				17.9%
8748 - All Other Business Consulting Services	\$	\$6,500								\$6,500	\$89,780				\$96,280
	%	2.8%									38.2%				41.0%
TOTAL	\$	\$6,500								\$6,500	\$228,567				\$235,067
	%	2.8%									97.2%				100.0%

Total Product Procurement	\$324,669
Total Service Procurement	\$11,871,559

Net Procurement***	\$12,196,228
--------------------	--------------

### 9.1.2 Number of WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers and Revenue Reported to the Clearinghouse

Please note that SVCE does not have access to the CPUC’s Supplier Clearinghouse (CHS), so revenue reported to CHS is not included.

Data on Number of Suppliers												
# WMDVLGBTBEs	Revenue Reported to CHS						Utility-Specific [Year] Summary					
	MBE	WBE	LGBTBE	DVBE	Other 8(a)*	Grand Total	MBE	WBE	LGBTBE	DVBE	Other 8(a)*	Grand Total
Under \$1 million												
Under \$5 million							1	2				3
Under \$10 million								1				1
Above \$10 million												
<b>TOTAL</b>							1	3				4

Revenue and Payment Data												
WMDVLGBTBE \$M	Revenue Reported to CHS						Utility-Specific [Year] Summary					
	MBE	WBE	LGBTBE	DVBE	Other 8(a)*	Grand Total	MBE	WBE	LGBTBE	DVBE	Other 8(a)*	Grand Total
Under \$1 million												\$ -
Under \$5 million							\$ 6,500	\$ 138,787				\$ 145,287
Under \$10 million								\$ 89,780				\$ 89,780
Above \$10 million												\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>							\$ 6,500	\$ 228,567	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,067



### 9.1.2 Description of Number of WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers with California Majority Workforce

All four of the WMDVLGBTBEs contracted by Silicon Valley Clean Energy in 2021 have the majority of their workforce in California.

### 9.1.3 WMDVLGBTBE Program Expenses-

Expense Category	Year (Actual)
Wages	\$8,638
Other Employee Expenses	\$0
Program Expenses	\$0
Reporting Expenses	\$0
Training	\$0
Consultants	\$0
Other	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,638</b>

Overall, SVCE's suppliers are heavily California-based, with a large portion being local to SVCE's service territory in Santa Clara County.

SVCE Supplier Summary		
Category	Total	Percent
Local	134	28%
In State	213	45%
Out of State	119	25%
Out of US	8	2%
Total	474	100%

### 9.1.4 Description of Met Goals

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

### 9.1.4 Results by Set Goals

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

### **9.1.5 Description of Prime Contractor Utilization of WMDVLGBTBE Subcontractors**

None of the WMDVLGBTBE that contract with SVCE reported the use of WMDVLGBTBE subcontractors.

As discussed above, over 90 percent of SVCE's operating budget is allocated to power supply and purchasing. SVCE surveyed counterparties it contracts with for power procurement. Thirteen counterparties responded. No respondents confirmed that they used diverse subcontractors.

### **9.1.6A List of WMDVLGBTBE Complaints Received and Current Status**

SVCE has not received any complaints from WMDVLGBTBE.

### **9.1.7 Description of Efforts to Recruit WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers in Low Utilization Categories**

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

### **9.1.9 Additional WMDVLGBTBE Activity**

All of SVCE's 2021 activities supporting WMDVLGBTBE are described in Section 9.1.1.



### **10.1.1 WMDVLGBTBE Annual SHORT, MID, AND LONG-TERM Goals by Product and Service Category**

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

### **10.1.2 Description of WMDVLGBTBE Planned Program Activities for the Next Calendar Year**

#### **INTERNAL ACTIVITIES**

##### **Expanding SVCE's Supply Chain**

In 2022, SVCE will continue identify strategies for soliciting diverse suppliers across all aspects of its business. SVCE will continue to utilize the CPUC's GO 156 Supplier Clearinghouse to identify WMDVLGBTBE. SVCE will continue to work closely with its trade association, the California Community Choice Association, other CCAs and CPUC staff to share best practices in expanding and diversifying its supply chain.

As noted above, SVCE is in the process of retaining outside counsel who will advise SVCE and other CCAs on compliance with Prop 209 and GO 156 requirements. This work will inform SVCE's supplier diversity activities and strategies to expand contracting with eligible suppliers.

##### **Increasing Staffing Capacity to Support Equity Goals**

In 2021, SVCE hired an analyst within its Decarbonization and Grid Innovation team who has led equity-related activities. This analyst is currently working with internal teams to expand SVCE's program offerings to low income and other vulnerable communities.

As a regional public agency, SVCE places a priority on working with local partners within its service territory to achieve its decarbonization and equity goals. To that end, SVCE hired a Senior Government Affairs Manager in 2021, responsible for building coalitions and establishing partnerships at the local and state level. The Senior Government Affairs Manager will continue outreach and coalition building efforts through 2022.

#### **EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES**

##### **Expanding Equity-Related Program Offerings**

SVCE will continue implementation of equity-related programs described in Section 9.1.1. SVCE will leverage the increased staffing capacity discussed above to expand its program offerings targeted towards low-income and other vulnerable customers in 2022.

To assess its customer base, SVCE has used the SocioEconomic Vulnerability Index (SEVI), CalEnviroScreen,<sup>9</sup> area median income (AMI) and household metrics such as customers on CARE<sup>10</sup> and FERA<sup>11</sup> rates in that assessment. SVCE then conducted an extensive customer survey using SEVI, in specific, to provide more detailed insight. SVCE plans to conduct a second SEVI survey to obtain current information on its customers.

SVCE will develop and track Key Performance Indicators, including SEVI and other metrics specific to vulnerable communities, that will help ensure the agency meets its decarbonization and equity goals.

In January 2021, SVCE elected to participate in PG&E's Arrearage Management Plan (AMP) program that offers payment plans and debt forgiveness to CARE and FERA customers behind their payments, so they are not disconnected.

In February 2022, SVCE customers with COVID-related arrearage will receive bill credits from the State's California Arrearage Payment Program. In addition, the SVCE Board of Directors voted February 2022 to allocate \$3 million in new bill credits to SVCE's income-qualified customers (approximately 30,000) - to help offset the impact of significant increases in California electric rates in 2022.

### **Advocating for Equitable Policies**

In 2022, SVCE will continue to engage policymakers at the legislative and regulatory level to advocate for policies that ensure affordable rates for our customers, equitable access to clean energy, and ensure all communities in our service territory benefit from the state's decarbonization efforts.

Specifically, SVCE is in the process of developing a new approach that will focus on key programs to increase its decarbonization efforts significantly. Specifically, SVCE will be focused on phasing out natural gas and increasing access to multi-family electric vehicle charging. Ensuring that vulnerable communities benefit from these efforts is a top priority for SVCE. Examples of the activities included in this approach include increased access to accessible financing and providing grants for multi-family charging assistance.

Finally, SVCE will continue to support legislation and regulations that promote energy portfolio optimization to ensure that costs to maintain the grid remain reasonable and rates remain affordable for all customers, especially the most vulnerable customers throughout the state.

### **10.1.3 Plans for Recruiting WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers in Low Utilization Areas**

---

<sup>9</sup> CalEnviroScreen scores can be compared within a region to create a regionalized ranking of cumulative social, health and environmental impacts. More information can be found here:

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>.

<sup>10</sup> CARE (California Alternate Rates for Energy) is a rate in which customers whose household income is <200% of the Federal Poverty Line and have enrolled to receive a 30-35% discount on their electric bill and a 20% discount on their gas bill.

<sup>11</sup> FERA (Family Electric Rate Assistance Program) serves customers who do not qualify for CARE, but whose household income is <250% of the federal poverty line and have enrolled to receive an 18% electric bill discount.

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

#### **10.1.4 Plans for Recruiting WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers Where Unavailable**

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

#### **10.1.5 Plans for Encouraging Prime Contractors to Subcontract WMDVLGBTBE Suppliers**

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

#### **10.1.6 Plans for Complying with WMDVLGBTBE Program Guidelines**

This section is not applicable to CCAs.

## Appendix A: SVCE's Voluntary Supplier Diversity Survey

SVCE Supplier Diversity Survey - Saved

QuestionsResponses

### SVCE Supplier Diversity Survey

Please note that not all questions may apply to your business. For the questions that do not apply, please skip them or answer "not applicable."

Pursuant to Proposition 209, SVCE does not give preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin. Providing information in these categories is optional and will not impact the selection process. Responses are collected for informational and reporting purposes only pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 255.

\* Required

Section 1 ...

1. Email address \*

2. Business Name \*



Questions	Responses
SVCE Supplier Diversity Survey - Saved	
Questions	Responses
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">Enter your answer</div> <p>3. Where is your business located/headquartered?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">Enter your answer</div> <p>4. Is your business certified under General Order 156 (GO 156)?</p> <p>(General Order 156 (GO 156) is a California Public Utilities Commission ruling that requires utility entities to report annually on their contracts with majority women-owned, minority-owned, disabled veteran- owned and LGBT-owned business enterprises (WMDVLGBTBEs) in all categories. Qualified businesses become GO 156 Certified through the CPUC and are then added to the GO 156 Clearinghouse database at <a href="http://www.thesupplierclearinghouse.com">www.thesupplierclearinghouse.com</a>.)</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes  <input type="radio"/> No  <input type="radio"/> Qualified as a WMDVLGBTBE but not GO 156 Certified         </p> <p>5. If certified, when does your certification expire?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">             Please input date in format of M/d/yyyy <span style="float: right;">📅</span> </div> <p>6. If you answered "yes" or "qualified but not certified", under which categories? Please choose all that apply.</p> <p>*Pursuant to Proposition 209, SVCE does not give preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin. Providing information in these categories is optional and will not impact the selection process.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Minority-owned  <input type="checkbox"/> Woman-owned  <input type="checkbox"/> LGBT-owned  <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran Owned  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (found to be disadvantaged by the US Small Business Administration)         </p>	

SVCE Supplier Diversity Survey - Saved

Questions	Responses

12. If applicable, please describe any hiring targets your business has for minority- owned, women-owned, LGBTQ-owned, or disabled veteran-owned subcontractors.

Enter your answer

13. Does your business have a history of using apprenticeship programs, local-hires, union labor, or multi-trade project labor agreements?

(Local hires can be defined as labor sourced from within SVCE's service area which includes the communities of Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Saratoga, Sunnyvale and Unincorporated Santa Clara County.)

- Yes, apprenticeship programs in this recent contract with SVCE.
- Yes, local labor in this recent contract with SVCE.
- Yes, union labor in this recent contract with SVCE.
- Yes, multi-trade PLA in this recent contract with SVCE.
- Yes, apprenticeship programs but not in this contract with SVCE.
- Yes, history of local hire but not in this contract with SVCE.
- Yes, history of union labor but not in this contract with SVCE .
- Yes, history of multi-trade PLA but not in this contract with SVCE.
- Uses California-based labor, but not local to SVCE service area.
- None of the above.
- Not applicable.

14. If you answered yes, please describe your history with labor agreements, union labor, multi-trade labor, apprenticeship labor, or how many local workers/businesses you employ for your contract with SVCE.

Enter your answer

15. Does your business pay workers prevailing wage rates or the equivalent?

(Prevailing wage in California is required by state law for all workers employed on public works projects and determined by the California Department of Industrial Relations according to the type of work and location of the project. To see the latest prevailing wage rates, go to [www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Prevailing-Wage.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Prevailing-Wage.html).)

- Yes, including for this contract with SVCE.
- Yes, but not for this contract with SVCE.
- No
- Not applicable

16. Is there anything else you'd like to add? If you'd like for us to promote your survey participation on our social media, please include your handles here.

+ Add new