

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

November 20, 2025

Agenda Item 6.h.

Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)

Subject:

Authorization to negotiate and enter into a contract amendment with The Energy Coalition in the amount of \$550,000, for a cumulative total amount not to exceed \$1,300,000, to provide shared technical and regulatory support services for the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) and Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN) through December 31, 2027.

Background:

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network implements a portfolio of energy efficiency programs across the region. ABAG serves as the program administrator and lead agency for a 10-member unincorporated association of local government entities. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in Decision 12-11-015, first authorized funding for BayREN. Most recently, on July 3, 2023, the CPUC issued D.23-06-055 approving BayREN's strategic business plan for eight years (2024-2031) and four-year program portfolio for 2024-2027, with an accompanying budget of approximately \$157 million.

ABAG, on behalf of BayREN, has contracts with member agencies and with third-party consultants to assist in the implementation of the programs.

BayREN's technical and regulatory support team includes The Energy Coalition, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. They lead monthly, quarterly, and annual regulatory reporting processes; participate in working groups; assist with workpaper development and data requests; and provide regulatory support including monitoring relevant proceedings at the California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, and other agencies to provide technical and strategic guidance and relevant policy updates as they occur.

The Energy Coalition was awarded placement on a Technical and Regulatory Support Bench and is currently under contract to provide services through the end of 2025. Extending this contract will allow these services to continue throughout the remainder of BayREN's four-year portfolio period (2024-2027). TEC's assistance is particularly needed to support completion of BayREN's 2028-2035 Business Plan application to the CPUC, which is due in 2026.

This contract is for services on behalf of both BayREN and the Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN). Both RENs need similar services and have therefore arranged a joint contract that splits expenses in order to reduce costs to each REN.

Issues:

None identified.

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Recommended Action:

The Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), or his designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), to negotiate and enter into a contract amendment with The Energy Coalition in the amount of \$550,000, for a cumulative total amount not to exceed \$1,300,000, to provide shared technical and regulatory support services for BayREN and Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN) through December 31, 2027.

Attachments:

A. Summary Approval—The Energy Coalition

Reviewed:



Andrew Fremier