Climate Adaptation Community Engagement Plan







1. Executive Summary

San Diego Gas & Electric[®] Company (SDG&E[®], or the Company) is committed to understanding and mitigating the effects of climate change on our infrastructure, operations, services, and ultimately our communities. To accomplish this, SDG&E is conducting a Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment (CAVA) which will help the Company understand the potential impacts climate change brings to our service area and begin to identify potential solutions and adaptation options. To do this holistically and equitably, however, it is critical that SDG&E effectively engages with its communities to deepen partnerships and expand communications pathways. To this end, SDG&E has developed the Community Engagement Plan (CEP) to outline how it will effectively engage with its communities.

This CEP explores SDG&E's work to date in developing these pathways as well as its commitment to treat it as a "living plan" that encompasses community feedback. The effective execution of this plan will create robust regional engagement and solutions that contribute to a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient future for the San Diego region.

Through the implementation of this plan, SDG&E aims to accomplish the following key objectives:

- 1. Ensure an Equity-First approach at the forefront of engagement measures
- 2. Increase public knowledge of SDG&E's climate adaptation efforts
- 3. Activate a network of engaged, diverse, community partners, and SDG&E staff
- 4. Identify resilience investments informed by community guidance
- 5. Increase its adaptive capacity¹ and that of the communities it serves

2. Introduction

One of the greatest risks facing California is climate change. The state is "one of the most 'climate challenged' regions of North America and must actively plan and implement strategies to prepare for and adapt to extreme events and shifts²." As such, it is critical that decision-makers across the state begin to understand the impacts that climate hazards pose and invest to mitigate those potential risks.

As part of Rulemaking 18-04-019 – Components of Climate Adaptation Community Engagement Plans, which was issued in September 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC, or Commission) recommended the inclusion of the specific components to detail how SDG&E plans to meet climate adaptation and community engagement objectives. SDG&E applauds the Commission's commitment to combatting the adverse effects of climate change and better preparing our communities for the future through the Climate Change Adaptation Order Instituting Rulemaking (Rulemaking). SDG&E views this as an opportunity to holistically understand how climate change will impact our company and our communities and begin to work regionally to develop sustainable solutions to these challenges.

¹ Defined as: "The broad range of responses and adjustments to daily and extreme climate change-related events available to communities. This includes the ability and resources communities have to moderate potential damages, take advantage of opportunities, and cope with consequences." – CPUC Rulemaking 18-04-019, pg. 16 ² California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment: Statewide Summary Report, 2018, pg. 13

² California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment: Statewide Summary Report, 2018, pg. 13

In this Community Engagement Plan SDG&E addresses the following topics in the seven sections of this document:

Sections (1-3) beginning with the regulatory background, describes the work to date in development of the CEP, as well as the framework for continuous engagement and integration of community input into adaptation planning

Section (4) describes how SDG&E's CEP and climate adaptation outreach program was designed and the steps taken to ensure community input and equity guidance remains central to its climate adaptation process.

Section (5) describes how SDG&E's CEP will utilize community informed best practices to ensure meaningful, equitable, and actionable engagement occurs between SDG&E and our customers.

Section (6) describes how SDG&E plans on ensuring that the community engagement SDG&E executes with its communities is directly incorporated into the CAVA and adaptation planning processes.

Section (7) outlines SDG&E's efforts to align both internally and externally to maximize utility and community resources.

3. Background

With the goal of providing safe and reliable energy for all Californians, the Commission issued a decision in 2020 mandating all Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) to identify and assess the threats and vulnerabilities that climate change poses to their infrastructure, operations, and services, focusing on the CPUC-defined Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities (DVCs) (See Section 3.1 for DVC definition).

The resulting product is the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment (CAVA), which considers the following climate hazards: temperature, precipitation, drought, wildfire, sea level rise, and cascading impacts (two successive climate hazards which exacerbate the impact of the events). Through initial analysis for development of SDG&E's CAVA, the Company is exploring the potential impacts of climate change to our assets, operations, and services.

Changes in SDG&E's infrastructure, operations, and services due to climate change also have a variety of effects on SDG&E's communities' resilience and adaptive capacity, specifically the Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities in its service area. For example, nature-based solutions that mitigate risks to SDG&E's system can create co-benefits such as more shade and green space which could increase a community's adaptive capacity. As such, SDG&E is framing the CAVA analysis as an exploration of the intersection of climate change, its infrastructure, and the communities we serve.

To engage with communities effectively and equitably, pursuant to Commission Decision (D.) 20-08-046, the *Decision on Energy Utility Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Adaptation in Disadvantaged Communities (Phase 1, Topics 4 and 5)* SDG&E is developing a CEP that supports the prioritization of DVCs in the CAVA. The CEP, developed with community and regional partner input, outlines how SDG&E will work to involve DVCs and other communities in the CAVA and adaptation processes. As a result, the CEP provides a roadmap that will enable SDG&E to engage with communities more effectively and directly throughout the scope analysis, goal development, implementation, administration, and review of the Company's CAVA.

3.1 Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities (DVCs)

SDG&E's Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment process entails a robust engagement with Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities. The commission defines a DVC as³:

- Top 25% of census tracts according to CalEnviroScreen (CES)
- California Tribal lands
- Census tracts with median household incomes less than 60% of state median income
- Census tracts that score in the highest 5% of Pollution Burden within CalEnviroScreen, but do not receive an overall CalEnviroScreen score due to unreliable public health and socioeconomic data

SDG&E recognizes that the current DVC definition may not fully capture or reflect all the communities of concern in the region, and SDG&E remains open to exploring expanded definitions.

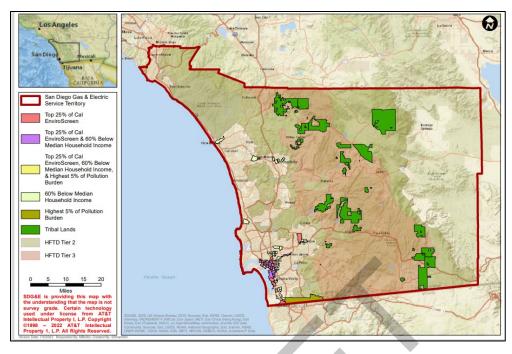
The motivation for designating DVCs is that these "communities have been subjected to disproportionate impacts from one or more environmental hazards, socio-economic burdens, or both. Residents have been excluded in policy setting or decision-making processes and have lacked protections and benefits afforded to other communities by the implementation of environmental and other regulations, such as those enacted to control polluting activities."⁴ As such, it is essential for SDG&E to acknowledge the historical inequities that impact our communities and to emphasize that the prioritization of resources, investments, and engagement in these areas is foundational to a more equitable and resilient future for our region.

Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities in SDG&E's service area encompass an array of geographic, demographic, and socioeconomic settings (Figure 1).

Figure 1: DVCs in SDG&E's Service Area

³ CPUC Decision 20-08-046, p. 108.

⁴ https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/discom/



See Appendix D for a list of DVC locations, designation criteria, and population within SDG&E's service area. Also see Appendix D for a map of DVC outreach areas within SDG&E's service area. DVC outreach areas were created by SDG&E through joining multiple near-by DVC census tracts into one larger geographic area for practical purposes of achieving targeted outreach and engagement. Tribal lands were not grouped into outreach areas as each tribe represents its own unique identity and history.

4. Methodology

In developing the Community Engagement Plan, SDG&E leveraged both internal and external partners, cultivating new partnerships where necessary, to ensure the development of a robust and equitable framework for the purposes of meaningful engagement. The approach outlined in this section chronicles the process and partnerships leveraged in developing the CEP.

To ensure equity is at the forefront of the Company's outreach and adaptation processes, SDG&E partnered with the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative (SDRCC) and the Nonprofit Institute (NPI), located at the University of San Diego to develop a robust community engagement framework ("Framework") titled *Development & Recommendations for Equity-First Community Engagement for Climate Adaptation Planning Efforts* (visit sdge.com/Climate).

The Framework includes key recommendations for engagement processes and action and is the foundational document with which the CEP was created. Additional guidance for the contents of the CEP is the result of feedback from individual interviews with the Equity-First Community Climate Coalition (EC3) members, feedback from three Climate Readiness Information Sessions hosted by SDG&E, and lessons learned from SDG&E's 10+ years of wildfire resilience outreach and engagement efforts. These primary and secondary CEP sources are explained in further detail in the subsequent sections.

4.1 Equity-First Adaptation Framework

The Framework draws recommendations and best practices from SDRCC's *Equity-First Approach to Climate Adaptation* guidance document⁵ ("Equity Guidance") as well as data from survey and focus groups with San Diego CBO's, local governments, and other partners, conducted in 2022.

The Equity Guidance synthesizes the latest academic literature, climate science, and regional, state, and national adaptation reports and provides best practices for designing, planning, and implementing equitable climate adaptation. The document assumes that equity is not an add on, but a fundamental part of building a climate-adapted future.

The survey and focus groups conducted in creating SDG&E's Framework were intended to solicit input and guidance from local leaders on the best practices for outreach and engagement in our communities, as well as gauge their interest in partnering with SDG&E in its climate adaptation activities. Additionally, survey responses helped determine the topics and participants of the focus groups. The main goal of the survey and focus groups was to identify strategies that ensure communities and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) are involved in scope analysis, goal development, implementation, administration, and review of the Company's vulnerability assessments. Survey questions and results can be found in Appendix E.

4.2 Equity-First Community Climate Coalition (EC3)

As recommended in the Framework, SDG&E founded the Equity-First Community Climate Coalition (EC3) in 2023. The EC3 is a collective of local organizations collaborating to advance climate resilience and equity goals with SDG&E and the communities they serve. The coalition co-develops a range of different outreach opportunities to effectively incorporate community voices, needs, and feedback into SDG&E's CAVA and subsequent adaptation planning processes. The group consists of 10 members representing a range of geographic and demographic backgrounds.⁶ The Company requests at least 10 hours per year from each EC3 member at an industry-benchmarked compensation rate for time participating in and preparing for meetings.

4.3 Regional Entities

In addition to CBOs, SDG&E has engaged with local governments and other entities such as the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and the Port of San Diego to maximize alignment and create lasting collaborations. These organizations have unique experience in community organizing, infrastructure planning, and other relevant disciplines, which are central to climate adaptation efforts. Additionally, SDG&E recognizes that to truly advance the resilience of its service area, a regional approach is required.

SDG&E is also a member of SDRCC's Sea Level Rise Working Group, which meets quarterly, and the Adaptation Policy Working Group, which meets every month where the Sea Level Rise Working Group does not convene. These two working groups serve as crucial opportunities for innovation and information sharing as the region works to adapt together.

⁵ <u>An Equity-First Approach to Climate Adaptation</u>, SDRCC, 2021.

⁶ This number is subject to change as community and company needs and availability evolve.

4.4 Wildfire Resilience

Over the course of more than 10 years, SDG&E has developed an industry-leading wildfire outreach and education program across the High-Fire Threat District (HFTD) within its service area. In 2023, their wildfire safety fairs reached over 3,300 customers and were recognized by County Supervisor Joel Anderson with a Certificate of Recognition for their "efforts to inform and educate our community on wildfire safety."

SDG&E continues to find creative ways to engage and receive feedback from the HFTD communities. The Schools for Resilience Program, launched in 2022, included development of a curriculum with Mt. Woodson Elementary School. The curriculum focused on youth education of high fire threats and evacuation preparedness. Not only was an activity booklet developed throughout the process, which can be used for other various wildfire events in the future, but also the process of developing a curriculum with an HFTD school reinforces that community feedback and climate adaptation can truly work together.

As SDG&E began its climate change adaptation outreach and engagement planning, the internal team leveraged the experience, relationships, and best practices from wildfire safety outreach efforts and customer outreach programs to optimize its approach. To see a more exhaustive list of these wildfire outreach efforts, please see SDG&E's Wildfire Mitigation Plan⁷. SDG&E plans to keep its climate adaptation and wildfire safety outreach and engagement closely aligned in the future.

4.5 Climate Readiness Information Sessions and Other Events

SDG&E hosted three Climate Readiness Information Sessions that educated residents about potential climate change impacts in the region, informed residents about SDG&E's work on the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and Community Engagement Plan, and garnered feedback on topics of concern. These information sessions provided an opportunity to connect with the community face to face, which is a critical aspect of trust-building. The times and locations of the sessions were communicated to community participants through initial and follow-up SDG&E email invites and through CBOs communication networks. Additionally, interpretation services were provided at each event to help improve accessibility and open participation to community members with Access and Functional Needs. This included American Sign Language interpretation at each event, and Spanish interpretation in Logan Heights and Chula Vista.

DVC	Date	Time	Venue	Attendees
Escondido	9/12/2023	5:30pm – 6:30 pm	Community Center	27
Logan Heights	10/2/2023	5:30pm – 6:30 pm	Library	7
Chula Vista	11/29/2023	5:30pm – 6:30 pm	Library	40

Table 1. Climate Readiness Information Sessions Held as of February 22, 2024

https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/regulatory/2023-

⁷ SDG&E 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plan, Section 8.5.

^{2025%20}SDGE%20WMP%20with%20Attachments_Errata_10-23-23.pdf

From 2022 to 2023, SDG&E participated in an additional 15 events that served as touchpoints with residents on climate adaptation. Refer to Appendix F for a complete list of relevant events and activities.

4.6 Climate Adaptation Survey

To support climate adaptation efforts, the Company developed a short survey to assess the awareness of and concerns related to climate change and SDG&E's adaptation work. The survey is intended to remain live on SDG&E's website for the foreseeable future and serve as a long-term tracking mechanism and low-barrier engagement tool. As of February 1, 2024, 72 people have responded to the survey. Survey questions and results can be found in Appendix I. To take the survey, please visit SDG&E's climate adaptation webpage: sdge.com/climate-adaptation-sdge.

5. Meaningful and Continuous Engagement

SDG&E views outreach and engagement related to the CAVA and climate adaptation as a continuous and foundational programmatic pillar. In its outreach efforts, SDG&E endeavors to continually meet with local governments, CBOs, Tribal nations, academic partners, and customers to develop sustainable and lasting relationships which are necessary for holistic and equitable climate adaptation. Additionally, SDG&E is working to align its internal outreach activities to ensure maximization of utility and community resources and to avoid engagement fatigue within communities.

The following section outlines SDG&E's ongoing best practices in outreach activities, the feedback loops the Company is committed to developing, and a menu of contemplated outreach activities.

5.1 Guidance and Approach

The foundation built through the efforts outlined in Section 4, in addition to multiple iterations of CBO and community review, helped SDG&E identify the following components as critical to achieving the company's goal of meaningful and sustainable engagement with its communities.

SDG&E does not consider a "one-size-fits-all" approach to community engagement to be the most equitable or effective for the purposes of the CEP and CAVA processes. SDG&E's service area spans too many different geographic, socioeconomic, political, and cultural boundaries for a uniform approach to be effective. Therefore, to ensure meaningful engagement, SDG&E is using a tailored approach when interacting with local communities to make outreach accessible, equitable, and culturally sensitive.

The following components, heavily emphasized by EC3 members, are at the forefront of SDG&E's current community engagement approach:

- 1. Partner with trusted local CBOs to facilitate mutually beneficial networks and relationships.
 - a. Appropriately compensate CBO partners for their time and efforts.
- 2. Consider the following when planning, attending, and hosting outreach events:
 - a. Provide both in-person and virtual options.
 - b. Provide food, especially if events occur during typical mealtimes. Where possible, support local food vendors.
 - c. If possible, offer incentives such as giveaways or raffles. Items such as fans, gift cards, and emergency kits help support household resiliency and further signal to the community that SDG&E values their time.

- d. Provide a welcoming space for families and children by involving kids in the event or provide childcare or activities during the event.
- e. Host events at a variety of times in the same community to ensure robust participation.
- f. Leverage existing events in community through partnerships to maximize reach of SDG&E and its partners.
- g. Utilize trusted community spaces such as libraries and community centers.
- h. Provide multi-language communication options such as interpreters and translated presentations and flyers. Selected languages are based off area of focus and partner recommendations.
- i. In partnership with local CBOs, create events that are culturally relevant to the community.
- j. Employ multiple information exchange means, taking into consideration customers with digital access and those without.
- k. Where possible, consider event locations that are ADA compliant, have ample parking, paved sidewalks or trails, and/or are accessible by transit. Given historical disinvestment in infrastructure in DVCs, paved and easily accessible locations may be limited. Ultimately, the highest priority is meeting the community where they are.
- I. Locations should be rotated to increase participation.

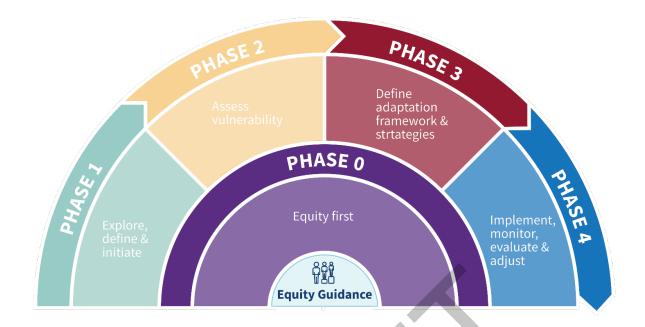
5.2 Feedback Loops

Feedback loops are critical in ensuring that equitable, generative, and sustainable processes and outcomes are achieved. SDG&E strives to create clear feedback loops for the CAVA and adaptation planning process. Informing communities and community partners about how their input was or wasn't used in SDG&E's CAVA or other adaptation processes is critical to long-term relationship and trust building. Figure 2 illustrates this process that centers feedback and accountability.⁸ SDG&E intends to continually connect with these groups primarily through the EC3, SDG&E's Climate Adaptation website, ongoing newsletters, events, and meetings to ensure this information is shared and transparent.

Figure 2. Illustration of an Equity-First Approach, with equity guidance at the center of the process. Adapted from *An Equity First Approach to Climate Adaptation*, 2022.⁹

⁸ SDRCC 2001

⁹ <u>https://digital.sandiego.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1018&context=npi-sdclimate</u>



Where no engagement from CBOs, local governments, or other relevant state agencies exists, SDG&E plans to leverage its existing communication avenues (e.g., email, newsletters, website, social media) to promote events and other engagement opportunities for the community. Through these touchpoints, SDG&E intends to maintain contact with our customers and build communication pathways to the appropriate local entities for that area.

5.3 Implementation Mechanisms

SDG&E's implementation strategy is based on the practical considerations and guidance outlined in section 5.1 and 5.2 through community assets, new and existing SDG&E led community engagement programs, and innovative platforms. The following examples outline how SDG&E aims to achieve desired outcomes:

- 1. Leverage new and existing SDG&E-led community engagement
 - a. Leverage SDG&E's state of the art Wildfire & Climate Resilience Center to host workshops, tours, and other engagement opportunities with our communities and partners.
 - b. Expand upon the successful model of SDG&E's Wildfire Safety Fairs to other climate hazards of concern such as extreme heat.
- 2. Leverage community assets
 - a. Utilize EC3 to identify community-led events and activities that SDG&E can attend and/or support.
- 3. Innovative platforms
 - a. Raise awareness of ongoing work through social media platforms create ready-made toolkits for partners.
 - b. Create and distribute a Climate Adaptation Newsletter to inform partners, customers, and to directly facilitate feedback loops.

5.4 Tribal Engagement

The Tribal Relations team at SDG&E offers dedicated support to the 17 tribal nations in San Diego County that SDG&E serves. The focus of the team is to increase safety, reliability, resiliency, and sustainability on tribal lands.

To effectively and respectfully engage the tribal nations in SDG&E's service area, the climate adaptation team works closely with SDG&E's Tribal Relations team.

SDG&E recognizes each tribe is its own sovereign nation and strives for one-on-one engagement with each. It is committed to providing opportunities for dialogue to foster partnerships and to mobilize around a shared vision to build a better future for all. Tribal knowledge provides a roadmap to protect both cultural and natural resources. Tribal partnerships and feedback are particularly valuable because they cultivate innovative solutions to increase resilience. This plan below outlines guidance on tribal engagement upon which SDG&E will draw as it engages local tribal nations on climate adaptation.

Value-Driven Approach

Core values that underpin any communication with tribes include:

- All land is ancestral tribal land. It is important to understand the historical injustices which precipitated present-day challenges and distrust. Certain topics can elicit emotionally charged comments and it is important to practice active listening, with care and compassion.
- Tribes are political entities. Each tribe has their own unique culture, language and sovereign government and that autonomy must be respected.
- Tribes also seek the same vision of a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future but with a deeply cultural foundation. It is important to respect their traditional knowledge and engage with a culturally sensitive approach.
- Engagement is a two-way exchange of information between SDG&E and tribes for which the foundation is reciprocity and respect. Each tribe is unique and meeting them where they are is important, particularly for the most remote and least resourced tribes.
- To build trust, it's important to deliver on actionable commitments by finding champions within the tribal government and the Company.

Engagement Strategies

- When introducing new initiatives, engage the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association through a request to participate in monthly meetings.
- When engaging individual tribes at the leadership level, work with Tribal Administrators or similar staff members to seek time on council meeting agendas or to set up ad-hoc meetings.
- For complex projects or engagements, approach the tribal staff for an initial briefing to cultivate additional support to brief leadership.
- Partnering with CBOs is crucial as there are existing groups made up of tribal leaders and staff that meet regularly and can effectively introduce a project or initiative to gather feedback or source key advisors. CBOs are also great vehicles to fund tribal projects that align with SDG&E's goals and are a way to ensure reciprocity.

SDG&E's climate adaptation process will rely on these guiding principles and considerations as it strives for connected and culturally relevant collaboration between the Company and the tribal nations in its service area.

6. IOU's Use of Community Engagement

For community engagement outcomes and input to successfully inform adaptation planning, it is important to have clearly defined points of integration that can shape both outreach planning and CAVA analysis methodologies. Figure 3 illustrates the avenues through which community input will directly influence the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and subsequent decision-making. Yellow boxes represent areas of community feedback and engagement. Blue boxes represent distinct steps or inputs in the adaptation process.

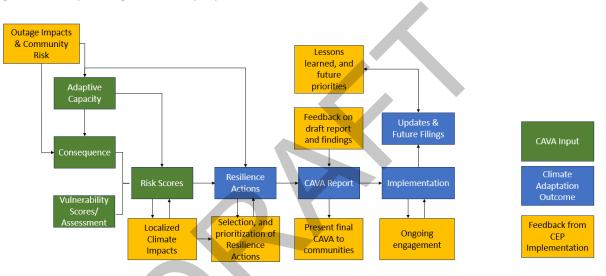


Figure 3. Incorporating Community Input into the CAVA Process

6.1 Tracking Progress

SDG&E recognizes the importance of leveraging the feedback and data from its engagement processes to monitor program development, improvement, maturity, and to build alignment with other regional adaptation practitioners. Furthermore, comprehensive tracking strategies help SDG&E remain accountable to its communities by tracking activities, actions, and progress.

Documentation will occur and has occurred in the following forms:

- Events, Meeting Schedules, and Notes Repository
 - All external events, activities, and meetings relevant to the CAVA outreach process will be documented as they occur.
 - Data and feedback from events will be reviewed by the climate adaptation team in a post-event briefing meeting.
- Survey Readouts (Data and Results)
 - \circ $\;$ Survey data will be reviewed and cataloged monthly by the climate adaptation team.
- Equity-First Framework

- \circ $\;$ The Framework will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- Interviews and Focus Groups
 - Interview and Focus Group outcomes will be shared with the climate adaptation team as they occur.

SDG&E will inform DVCs on whether their feedback influenced the CAVA through our above communication tools and touchpoints. Communication will identify what feedback was and was not integrated with explanations for why or why not. This feedback will be made available during engagement events in communities, through SDG&E's climate adaptation webpage, as well as via the quarterly newsletter. SDG&E is committed to communicating this at least once every six months.

Additionally, SDG&E plans to continue engaging DVCs after the CAVA is submitted. SDG&E intentionally designed the outreach and engagement approach to support longevity by building direct relationships between SDG&E's Climate Adaptation team and community and local government partners.

7. Alignment

7.1 Internal and IOU Alignment

Various departments within SDG&E such as Community Relations, Customer Outreach, and Regional Public Affairs, have strong relationships with and deep knowledge of the activities of local organizations and government entities. Additionally, at least 16 other separate regulatory proceedings currently require SDG&E to conduct outreach and engagement, some specific to Access & Functional Needs customers. Among these are the Public Safety Power Shutoff, Disconnection, Bill Debt, Percentage of Income Payment Plan Pilot, Microgrid, High Distributed Energy Resource, and Wildfire Mitigation Plan proceedings. Given the relative novelty of the Rulemaking's outreach and engagement requirements, and the large number of proceedings that require outreach across the company, SDG&E will continue to collaborate and align to execute a variety of outreach and engagement efforts, including those related to climate adaptation.

This collaborative approach to community engagement will be coordinated with other internal engagement efforts through three mechanisms: the Outreach & Equity Steering Committee (OESC), the Climate Advisory Group (CAG), and the Adaptation Management Team (AMT).

7.1.1 Outreach & Equity Steering Committee (OESC)

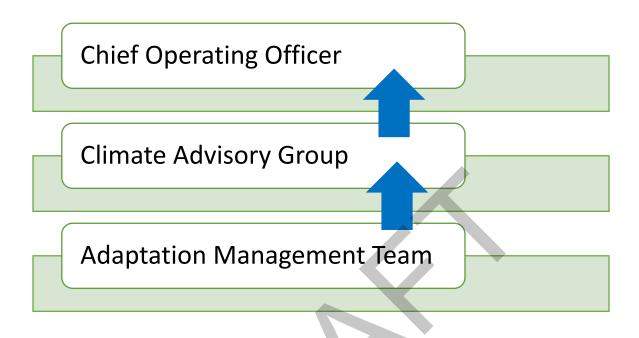
The Outreach & Equity Steering Committee, established in the second quarter of 2023, represents 10 departments across SDG&E and is a collaborative effort intended to foster increased alignment of relevant departments and teams conducting community engagement. The main purpose of the OESC is to align community outreach and engagement efforts across SDG&E. As outreach mandates and ambitions increase across the organization, it is crucial to align internal efforts to maximize both company and community resources.

7.1.2 Climate Advisory Group (CAG)

The Climate Advisory Group was established in 2020 to facilitate the communication of progress and foster alignment across the organization. The CAG consists of managers and directors, with 42 members from 40 different groups within SDG&E. The work of the CAG is reported to the Vice President of Wildfire and Climate Science and the Chief Operating Officer. The group meets quarterly and additional ad hoc

engagements with members occur as needed. Figure 4 outlines the governance and reporting structure of the CAG.

Figure 4: Climate Advisory Group Governance Structure



7.1.3 Adaptation Management Team (AMT)

The Adaptation Management Team is a working group of members from 18 different SDG&E organizations with the purpose of supporting and enabling climate adaptation initiatives. As shown in Figure 4, the AMT sits below and reports to the CAG. The first AMT meeting was held in the second quarter of 2022 and convenes monthly. AMT meetings will continue as is deemed necessary and useful.

7.1.4 Investor-Owned Utility Collaboration

In addition to aligning locally and internally, consistent communication between adaptation practitioners across the state is integral to the success of SDG&E and its fellow IOU community engagement and climate adaptation goals. As exemplified by the success realized in SDG&E's collaborative Wildfire Safety Fair community engagement efforts, open communication across agencies drives results. To that end, SDG&E's Climate Adaptation team meets monthly with other California IOU climate adaptation teams. This regular engagement helps to ensure the sharing of best practices and lessons learned to continuously improve outreach, considerations of equity, and CAVA processes.

7.1.5 Climate Equity Training Module

Further demonstrating IOU collaboration, SDG&E, alongside its affiliate Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), created a Climate Equity Training Module (CETM). This training program is required for any SDG&E employee participating in and supporting CAVA motivated outreach and engagement and will be completed annually by these practitioners. Additionally, the CETM is made available for any other SDG&E employee or consultant that could benefit from an equity and climate focused outreach and engagement training. Appendix H outlines the primary topics covered in the training.

Prior to the creation of the CETM, members of the SDG&E Climate Adaptation team were trained by experts at the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative in equitable community engagement practices and principles. The team initially completed three training sessions totaling 4 hours.

7.2 CPUC Alignment

California's government is unique in the maturity of both climate change and equity integration into policy across sectors. SDG&E plans to build upon this foundational work through alignment with both the CPUC'S Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan (ESJAP) and the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) Equity Framework. Both policies are invaluable to the equitable and resilient future the Commission and California IOUs are striving to realize.

The table below shows how SDG&E is aligning its CEP, CAVA, and adaptation planning efforts with the goals of the CPUC's ESJAP.

CPUC Environmental and Social Justice	SDG&E Actions
Action Plan Goals	
1. Consistently integrate equity and	SDG&E has partnered with local equity experts to ensure
access considerations throughout CPUC	the outreach, engagement, and adaptation efforts of the
proceedings and other efforts.	Company have equity at their core rather than added on.
2. Increase investment in clean energy	Where possible, SDG&E'S climate adaptation outreach
resources to benefit ESJ communities,	incorporates information from other programs within the
especially to improve local air quality	company that increase access to clean energy technologies
and public health.	and other opportunities.
3. Strive to improve access to high-	SDG&E has coordinated and plans to further engage
quality water, communications, and	decision-makers and leaders from regional entities, many
transportation services for ESJ	of which serve other needs outside of energy to ensure
communities	alignment and create synergies in climate adaptation and
	associated engagement efforts.
4. Increase climate resiliency in ESJ	As outlined in the Decision, SDG&E aims to prioritize
communities.	equitable adaptation in Disadvantaged Vulnerable
	Communities by incorporating community needs and
	perspectives into any adaptation plans and investments.
5. Enhance outreach and public	SDG&E is creating and driving consistent engagement with
participation opportunities for ESJ	our communities and incorporating their perspectives and
communities to meaningfully participate	feedback into as many regulatory filings as possible to
in the CPUC's decision-making process	ensure community perspectives are reflected in decision
and benefit from CPUC programs.	making.
6. Enhance enforcement to ensure	The safety of its customers and communities is one of
safety and consumer protections for ESJ communities.	SDG&E's core principles and the Company plans to continue
communities.	to ensure safety and consumer protections as it addresses
	the adaptation needs of our most disadvantaged communities.
7. Promote economic and workforce	SDG&E compensates its community partners for their time
development opportunities in ESJ	and efforts and acquires services related to outreach and
communities.	engagement from within the target communities wherever
	possible. Examples of this include venue rentals and
	catering.
	Catering.

8. Improve training and staff development related to ESJ issues within the CPUC's jurisdictions.	SDG&E and SoCalGas have partnered to create an equitable outreach and engagement online training which all employees and contractors engaging with our communities are required to complete annually.
9. Monitor the CPUC's ESJ efforts to evaluate how they are achieving their objectives.	Ongoing engagement with its local communities and partners will help SDG&E foster trust and achieve equitable outcomes.

In addition to the CPUC's ESJAP, the DACAG has also shared guidance with which SDG&E will work to align through its climate adaptation process. The DACAG was formed as a result of Senate Bill 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015. The group's primary role is "to review [California Energy Commission] and CPUC clean energy programs and policies to ensure that disadvantaged communities...benefit from proposed clean energy and pollution reduction programs."¹⁰ The DACAG equity framework is intended "to guide the [DACAG] as it moves forward in discussing and commenting on various proceedings... ensuring that access and adequate resources reach the implementation stage and benefit communities in a meaningful and measurable way."¹¹ The DACAG Equity Framework outlines five key areas of focus: Health & Safety, Access & Education, Financial Benefits, Economic Development, and Consumer Protection.

The five pillars of DACAG's equity framework align with SDG&E's mission to: do the right thing, champion people, and shape the future. These guiding principles support SDG&E's understanding and implementation of DACAG's framework both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Qualitatively, SDG&E similarly focuses on the five key areas of the DACAG framework when looking at potential projects, programs, or activities, especially Health & Safety, which is a core pillar of SDG&E. Climate change, and its potential impacts on energy infrastructure and communities, poses real challenges to preserving the health and safety of SDG&E's customers. SDG&E's climate actions aim to improve access and education as well as economic development in the most vulnerable communities in its service area.

SDG&E's Equity-First Community Engagement Plan will increase knowledge of SDG&E's climate adaptation efforts and develop a network of engaged and diverse community partners alongside SDG&E employees. Combining the enhanced knowledge of SDG&E efforts as well as engaged and diverse community partners results in the community's ability to provide valuable feedback in SDG&E's community and climate actions. With this community feedback, SDG&E can direct more financial benefits to DVC's and other communities of concern while also increasing consumer protection through identification of pressing issues to address.

Quantitatively, the current multi-attribute value framework (MAVF), which guides the Company's riskdriven investment decision-making, highlights safety, reliability, and financial value as the three major

¹⁰ Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group, California Energy Commission,

https://www.energy.ca.gov/about/campaigns/equity-and-diversity/disadvantaged-communities-advisory-group ¹¹ Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group Equity Framework, 2018, https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/energy-division/documents/infrastructure/disadvantaged-communities/dacag-equity-framework.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=130F6FD0AEA89095CD0EAC455D0C60EE

attributes of risk. Including data from CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and SDG&E DVCs into SDG&E's risk framework will inform health and safety, financial benefits, and workforce development in DVCs. SDG&E sees the CAVA results feeding into the MAVF framework, pursuant to the outcomes of the Safety Model Assessment Proceeding (S-MAP) and Phase II of the Rulemaking.

8. Conclusion

In summary, SDG&E is committed to equitably and sustainably engaging our communities, specifically those most vulnerable to climate change, with the goal of ensuring their input informs SDG&E's climate adaptation strategy and execution of fit-for-purpose mitigation plans. This Community Engagement Plan (CEP), informed through several rounds of community feedback and review, outlines how SDG&E will create a lasting and additive process to support the resilience of the underlying energy infrastructure and the communities it serves. In the spirit of continuous improvement, SDG&E will work to revisit this plan regularly and incorporate feedback and best practices as they evolve into the future. With the invaluable help of its partners, peers, and communities, SDG&E's climate adaptation process can enable a more equitable and resilient future for the region.

Appendix A. Timeline

	2023	2024	2024	2024	2024	2025	2025
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Community Engagement Plan Feedback							
Climate Vulnerability Information							
Vulnerability Assessment Review							
Adaptation Investment Input							

Appendix B. EC3 Members

EC3 CBO Members

Bayside Community Center

Climate Science Alliance

Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee on Anti-

Poverty (MAAC)

San Diego Workforce Partnership

Casa Familiar

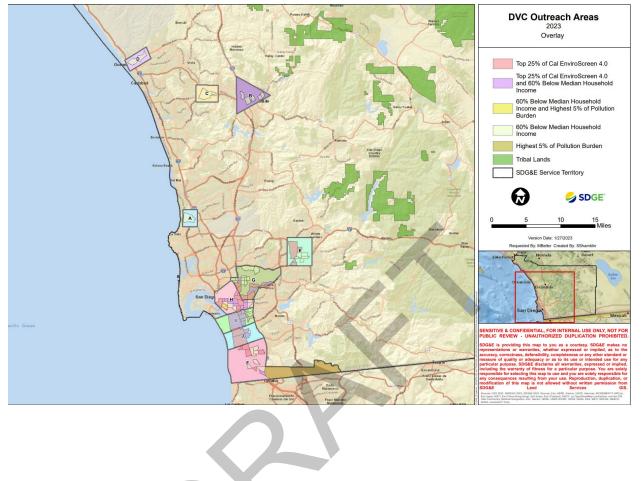
Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation

San Ysidro Health

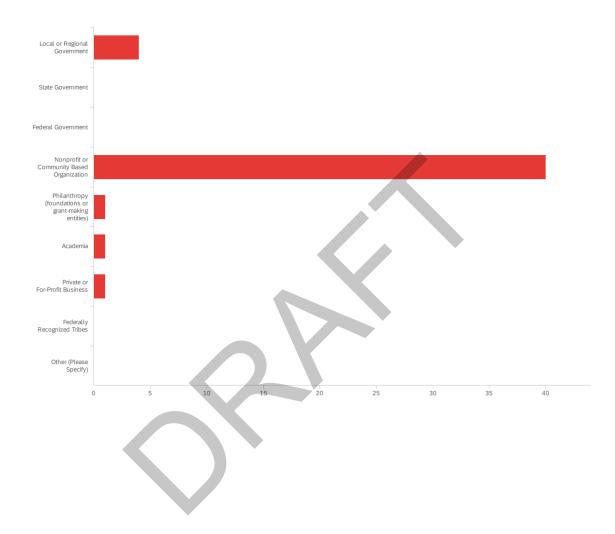
Appendix C. Feedback on draft CEP

Thus far, feedback in development of this has been limited, but this appendix will be updated as further engagement on this draft is conducted.

Appendix D. DVC Data and Maps



Appendix E. 2022 CBO Survey Results



Q3 - What sector does your organization consider itself to be a part of?

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What sector does your organization consider itself to be a part of? - Selected Choice	1.00	7.00	3.87	1.02	1.05	47
#	Field						Choice Count
1	Local or Regional Government					8.	51% 4
2	State Government					0.	00% 0
3	Federal Government					0.	00% 0
4	Nonprofit or Community Based Organization					85.	11% 40
5	Philanthropy (foundations or grant-making entities)					2.	13% 1
6	Academia					2.	13% 1
#	Field						Choice Count
7	Private or For-Profit Business					2.	13% 1
8	Federally Recognized Tribes					0.	00% 0
9	Other (Please Specify)					0.	00% 0
							47

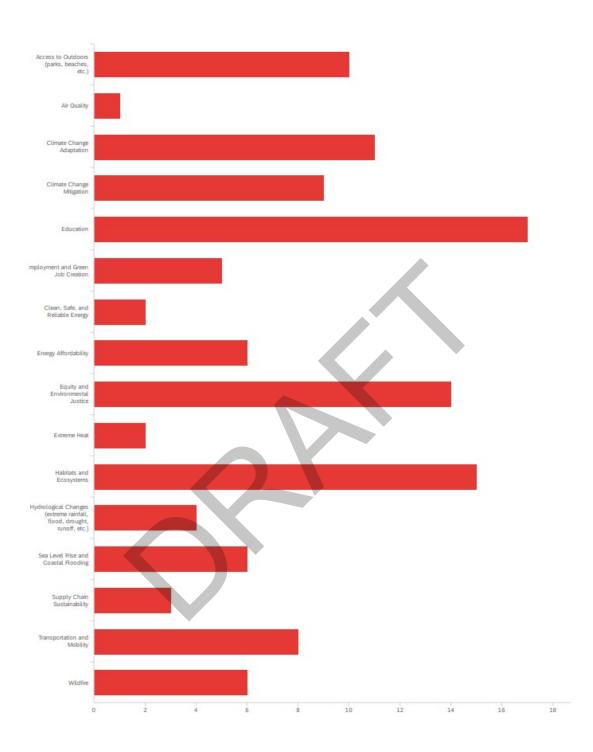
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Q32 - As it relates climate resilience efforts, please rank your organization's capacity

needs, using numbers 1 through 5, from highest priority (1) to lowest priority (5).



#	Field	1		2		3	4		5		Total
1	Staff Time	24.24%	8	54.55%	18	12.12% 4	6.06%	2	3.03%	1	33
2	Adequate Funding	65.71%	23	28.57%	10	2.86% 1	0.00%	0	2.86%	1	35
3	Internal Technical Expertise	6.25%	2	0.00%	0	34.38% 11	28.13%	9	31.25%	10	32
4	Sufficient Access to Data and Research	0.00%	0	6.25%	2	21.88% 7	37.50%	12	34.38%	11	32
5	Leadership and Governance Support	6.25%	2	9.38%	3	28.13% 9	25.00%	8	31.25%	10	32



Field

1 Access to Outdoors (parks, beaches, etc.)

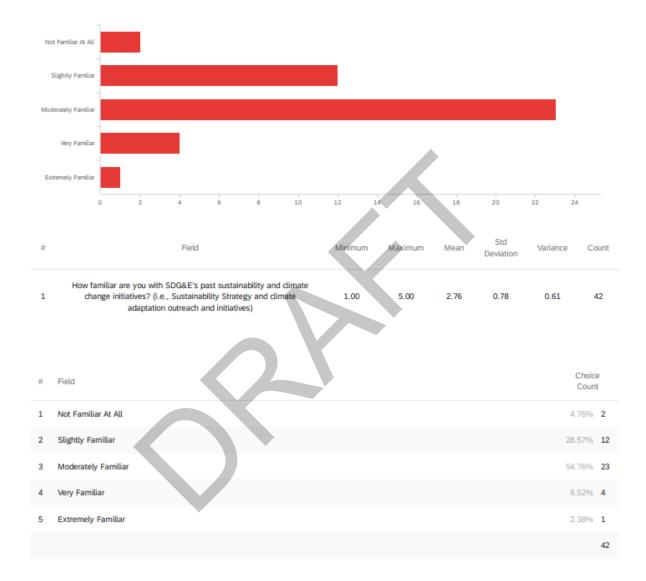
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8.40% **10**

#	Field	Choic Court	
2	Air Quality	0.84%	1
3	Climate Change Adaptation	9.24%	11
4	Climate Change Mitigation	7.56%	9
5	Education	14.29%	17
6	Employment and Green Job Creation	4.20%	5
7	Clean, Safe, and Reliable Energy	1.68%	2
8	Energy Affordability	5.04%	6
9	Equity and Environmental Justice	11.76%	14
10	Extreme Heat	1.68%	2
11	Habitats and Ecosystems	12.61%	15
12	Hydrological Changes (extreme rainfall, flood, drought, runoff, etc.)	3.36%	4
13	Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding	5.04%	6
14	Supply Chain Sustainability	2.52%	3
15	Transportation and Mobility	6.72%	8
16	Wildfire	5.04%	6
			110

119

Q5 - How familiar are you with SDG&E's past sustainability and climate change

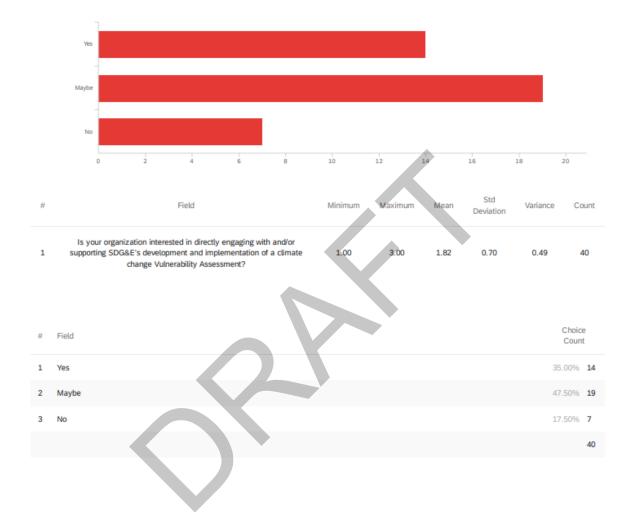


initiatives? (i.e., Sustainability Strategy and climate adaptation outreach and initiatives)

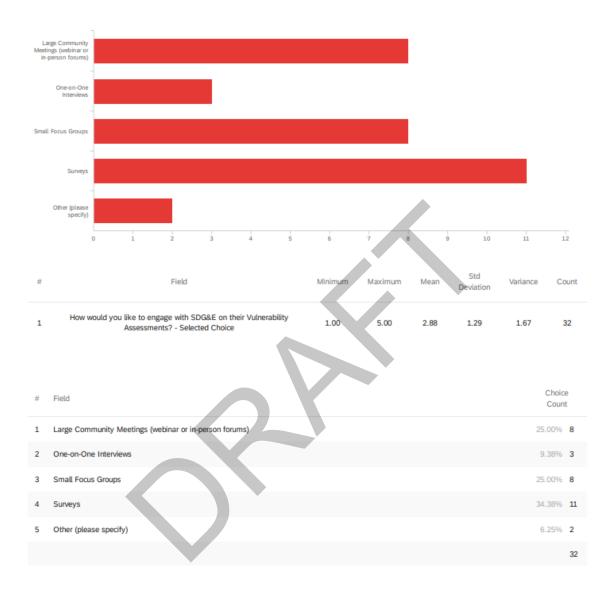
Q6 - Are you aware of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)'s recent decision on how California investor-owned utilities' should approach Climate Adaptation, which includes guidance on how utilities like SDG&E should develop vulnerability assessments and community engagement plans? If not, please read the excerpt below.



Q8 - Is your organization interested in directly engaging with and/or supporting SDG&E's

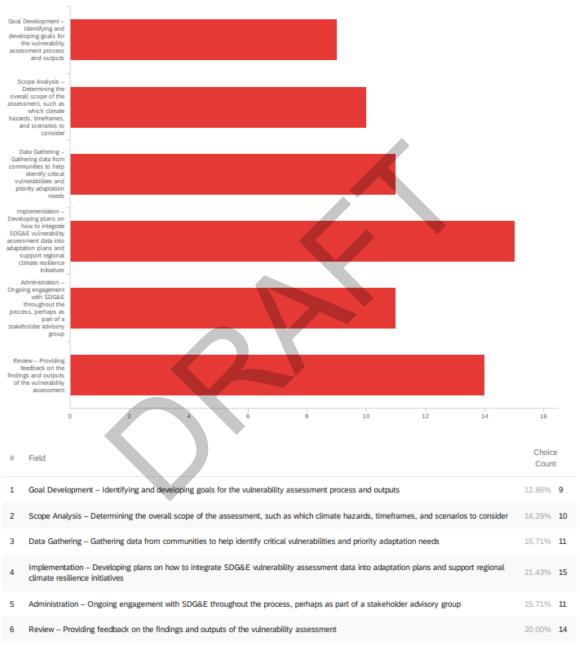


development and implementation of a climate change Vulnerability Assessment?



Q9 - How would you like to engage with SDG&E on their Vulnerability Assessments?

Q10 - Please select which project phases of the vulnerability assessments you would like



to be involved in? (Select all that apply)

70

Q11 - Are you or your organization expecting to be compensated for your participation in



these outreach and engagement activities?

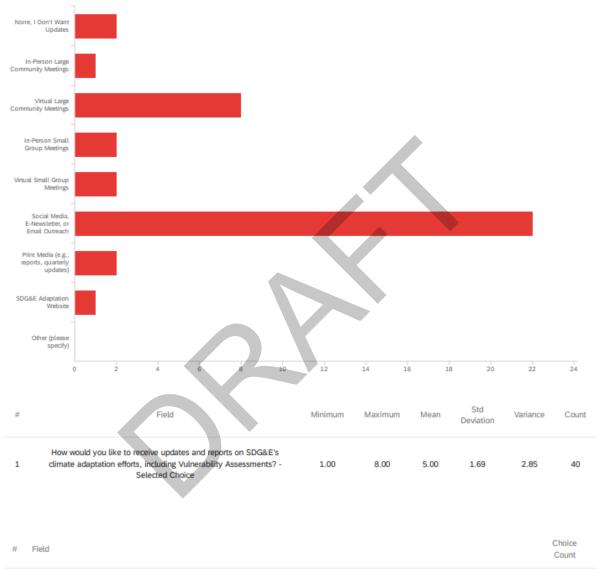
Q13 - Why are you not interested in supporting SDG&E's development and

implementation of vulnerability assessments and climate adaptation planning? (Select all



that apply)

Q14 - How would you like to receive updates and reports on SDG&E's climate adaptation



efforts, including Vulnerability Assessments?

#	Field	Count
1	None, I Don't Want Updates	5.00% 2
2	In-Person Large Community Meetings	2.50% 1
3	Virtual Large Community Meetings	20.00% 8
4	In-Person Small Group Meetings	5.00% 2

Event	Date	Location	Organizer	SDG&E Role
Wildfire Safety Fair	8/26/2023	Valley Center, CA	SDG&E	Tabling
Wildfire Safety Fair	7/29/2023	Julian, CA	SDG&E	Tabling
Wildfire Safety Fair	6/10/2023	Ramona, CA	SDG&E	Tabling
Inter-Tribal Long Term				
Resiliency Fund Breakfast	5/26/2023	Alpine, CA	ITLTRF	Presenter
Climate Readiness				
Information Session	9/12/2023	Escondido, CA	SDG&E	Speaking
Climate Readiness				
Information Session	10/2/2023	Logan Heights, CA	SDG&E	Speaking
Climate Readiness			K	
Information Session	11/29/2023	Chula Vista, CA	SDG&E	Speaking
Climate Readiness				
Information Session	4/11/2024	El Cajon, CA	SDG&E	Speaking
			Climate	
			Science	
San Diego Climate Summit	9/20/2023	San Diego, CA	Alliance	Tabling
				Speaking,
INSY Community Safety Fair	9/23/2023	Santa Ysabel, CA		Tabling
Viejas Tribal Earth Fair	5/20/2023	Viejas	Viejas Tribe	Tabling
				Facilitator/
EC3 Meeting 1	5/11/2023	Century Park	SDG&E	Speaking
Focus Group	10/19/2022	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Participant
Survey	5/2/2022	Online		
EC3 Individuals - MAAC	12/1/2023	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - Climate				
Science Alliance	12/4/2023	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - Bayside				
Community Center	1/16/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - San Diego				
Workforce Partnership	1/24/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - Casa				
Familiar	12/11/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - Jacobs				
Center for Neighborhood				
Innovation	1/16/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EC3 Individuals - San Diego				
Foundation	12/6/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead

Appendix F. Community Engagement Event Tracking

EC3 Individuals - San Ysidro Health	1/18/2024	Virtual	SDG&E/SDRCC	Co-Lead
EV Day	10/14/2023	Snapdragon Stadium, San Diego, CA	SDG&E	Tabling

Appendix G. EC3 Guidelines

Equity-First Community Climate Coalition Charter & Guidelines

Background

At the recommendation of the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative, San Diego Gas & Electric is founding the Equity-First Community Climate Coalition (EC3), which is a collective of local organizations collaborating to further SDG&E and the communities it serves' climate outreach and equity goals. The coalition will co-develop a variety of different outreach opportunities to best help community voices, needs, and feedback be incorporated into SDG&E's Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Planning processes. In certain cases, SDG&E will aim to develop ad-hoc partnerships with member CBOs for deeper outreach and engagement initiatives. The group will consist of between 10 and 18 members.

Mission & Vision

Mission:

The mission of the Equity-First Community Climate Coalition is to directly support SDG&E to incorporate community values, desires, and insight gained from lived experiences into SDG&E's climate vulnerability assessment and subsequent decision-making tools. This will be facilitated through a collaborative process with EC3 members that provides direct feedback from communities, supports two-way information sharing, and identifies new partnership pathways. EC3 will work to accomplish this by partnering on community outreach, and implementing new engagement pathways in order to create a more mutually beneficial relationship between SDG&E and community partners.

<u>Vision:</u> Our vision for the Equity-First Community Climate Coalition is to support SDG&E to create a truly equitable climate adaptation process for the communities in our service area and serve as an example of thought and action leadership locally and around the nation.

Guidelines

(1) Time Commitments and Compensation

SDG&E is committed to compensating CBO partners fairly for their time and expertise. As such, the Utility will ask for 10 hours per year from each EC3 member, at a compensation rate of \$100/hour for time in Coalition meetings. This compensation will be for five 1.5 hour bi-monthly meetings through the rest of 2023 in addition to compensation for 30 minutes of prep time potentially needed for each meeting. In the event there are additional opportunities for collaboration stemming from goals and projects developed within the EC3, those compensation arrangements will be scoped and handled on a case-by-case basis to ensure robust and equitable partnership development.

(2) Geographic Diversity

The EC3 will have representation from around SDG&E's service area to ensure the Coalition effectively represents the diversity of communities and climate impacts across the region. At a minimum, SDG&E commits to trying to have the makeup of the group overall touch every Disadvantaged Vulnerable Community (DVC) in SDG&E's service area.

(3) DVC Representation

The Coalition, first and foremost, will prioritize representation from and initiatives aimed at the Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities as outlined in the Climate Change Adaptation OIR. A map of DVC's in SDG&E's service area can be found on SDG&E's climate adaptation website (https://www.sdge.com/climate-adaptation-sdge).

(4) Intersectional Expertise

As climate change is a cross-cutting issue, so must the representation in the EC3, and SDG&E is committed to ensuring that there is a representation of many types of organizations such as youth groups, religious communities, and access and functional needs populations.

(5) Size & Meeting Frequency

Meetings will be held virtually and occur quarterly. Meetings will consist of one member from each organization and be facilitated by SDG&E's Climate Adaptation Team with support from the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative. Should an organization wish to designate an alternate representative in the case the primary person cannot attend, there will be an opportunity to do so.

(6) Positive Environment

SDG&E is committed to fostering a two-way learning environment and maximizing the benefit of the Coalition to its members and the communities of San Diego in the context of climate change and its actual or expected adverse impacts on them.

(7) Evaluation

Evaluation of the effectiveness of coalition efforts and satisfaction of coalition members with group processes and outcomes will be completed at the end of each year. Additionally, tracking and monitoring of both Coalition processes and outcomes will be conducted regularly. These activities might include, meeting notes, attendance records, and event logs.

Appendix H. CETM Training Outline

1. Section 1: Introduction to Climate Equity and the Climate Adaptation OIR

- 1.1. Section 1: Introduction to Climate Equity and the Climate Adaptation OIR
- 1.3. Course Navigation
- 1.4. What is Climate Equity?
- 1.5. An Example of a Climate Equity Challenge
- 1.6. Tree Canopy and Urban Heat: An Example of Climate Equity Disparity
- 1.7. What are the ESJ Action Plan and Climate Adaptation OIR?
- 1.8. Internal Efforts to Promote Climate Equity
- 1.9. External Efforts to Promote Climate Equity
- 1.10. End of Section

2. Section 2: Identifying and Understanding Target Communities

- 2.1. Section 2: Identifying and Understanding Target Communities
- 2.2. Who are we engaging?
- 2.3. Climate Equity Challenges Faced by DVCs
- 2.4. How DVCs Can Be Disproportionately Affected By Climate Change
- 2.5. Importance of Tailored Engagement and Community Partnerships
- 2.6. An Example Of Collaboration In Action
- 2.7. End of Section

3. Section 3: Mindful Engagement - Principles and Best Practices

- 3.1. Section 3: Mindful Engagement Principles and Best Practices
- 3.2. Outreach vs. Engagement
- 3.3. Spectrum of Engagement
- 3.4. Informed Outreach & Engagement
- 3.5. Impactful and Respectful Outreach & Engagement
- 3.6. Scenario: Building Trust and Authentic Partnerships
- 3.7. Scenario Question #1
- 3.8. Scenario Question #2

- 3.9. How did James do?
- 3.10. Cultural Competence and Inclusiveness
- 3.11. Recognizing and Respecting Diversity Within and Among DVCs
- 3.12. Ensuring Genuine Participation
- 3.13. End of Section

4. Section 4: Strategizing and Implementing Effective Outreach

- 4.1. Section 4: Strategizing and Implementing Effective Outreach
- 4.2. Conducting Needs Assessments
- 4.3. Collaboratively Defining Outreach Goals
- 4.4. Strategies for Collaborative Engagement
- 4.5. Event Organization
- 4.6. Continued Community Engagement
- 4.7. Course Resources
- 4.8. End of Section

Appendix I. Climate Adaptation Survey & Results Climate Adaptation Survey

Extreme weather events in California and the western United States have emphasized the need for utilities to better adapt to climate change. SDG&E is researching how these changes – including extreme heat, drought, wildfire, sea level rise, and the frequency and intensity of storms – may impact communities and the energy grid.

We want to know what you and your community need in the face of climate change. Your input will be used to help determine SDG&E's future investments in climate adaptation.

- 1. In what capacity are you filling out this survey?
 - o SDG&E or CCA Customer
 - Representative of Local Government
 - Representative of Community-Based Organization
 - o Other...

2. What city, community and/or tribal nation best describes where you live or represent?

3. Are you aware of SDG&E's climate adaptation efforts, including a Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Community Outreach/Education?

- Not at all familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- o Familiar

• Very familiar

4. Please rate the fo	llowing climate	hazards from	not at all	concerning to very	concorning.
4. Please rate the for	nowing cinnate	IIdzdrus Irom	notatan	concerning to very	/ concerning.

	Not at all Concerning	Somewhat Concerning	Neutral	Concerning	Very Concerning
Increased & Extreme Heat Days	0	0	0	0	0
Wildfire	0	0	0	0	0
Sea Level Rise/Coastal Flooding & Erosion	0	0	0	0	0
Extreme Precipitation & Stormwater Runoff	0	0	0	0	0
Extended Drought Conditions	0	0	0	0	0
Air Quality & Increased Pollution	0	0	0	0	0

5. What entity do you trust the most to conduct community outreach to gauge the gaps and opportunities for building climate resilience against the climate hazard you are most concerned about?

- Utility Company (SDG&E)
- o CCA
- Community-Based Organizations
- o Local Government
- o Other...

6. Would you like to be further engaged with SDG&E in their vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation processes?

- o Yes
- o No

7. What outreach method(s) would be most effective for you and your community?

- \circ Newsletters
- o Town Halls
- Webinars
- o Social Media
- o Climate Adaptation website
- \circ Other...

8. Do you have any questions or comments regarding SDG&E's climate adaptation efforts?

9. Would you like to learn more and sign up for our newsletter? If yes, please enter your email address in the box provided.

Survey Results

