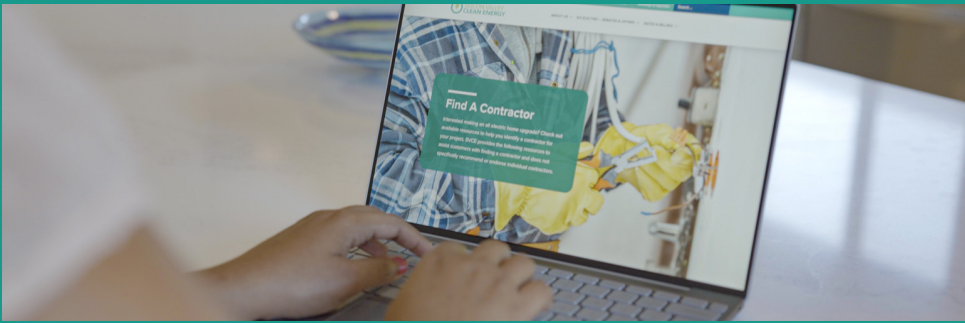


# 2023 SUPPLIER DIVERSITY REPORT



March 1, 2024





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## INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to General Order 156, Sections 9 and 10, Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) hereby submits its 2023 Annual Report on the Utilization of Women, Minority, Disabled Veteran, Persons with Disabilities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprises (WMDVLGBTBE) and planned activities for 2024.

### About Silicon Valley Clean Energy

SVCE is a community-owned agency serving the majority of Santa Clara County communities, acquiring renewable and clean electricity on behalf of more than 275,000 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: [www.svcleanenergy.org](http://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. 12 of SVCE's 26 Board of Directors are people of color and 14 are women.

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. Five of the eight members of SVCE's leadership team are people of color, including its CEO, CFO, COO, Director of Energy Services and Community Relations, and Director of Government and Legislative Affairs. One-fifth of its leadership team are women.







# SVCE Executive Leadership



**Girish Balachandran**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Amrit Singh**  
Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services



**Monica Padilla**  
Chief Operating Officer/  
Director of Power Resources



**Adam Selvin**  
Director of Energy Services & Community Relations



**Justin Zagunis**  
Director of Decarbonization Programs and Policy



**Don Bray**  
Director of Strategic Development



**Bena Chang**  
Director of Government and Legislative Affairs



**Gia Llole**  
Director of Human Resources

# SVCE Board of Directors



**Tina Walia, Chair**  
City of Saratoga



**George Tyson, Vice Chair**  
Town of Los Altos Hills



**Chuck Page**  
City of Saratoga *Alternate*



**Lisa Schmidt**  
Town of Los Altos Hills *Alternate*



**Elliot Scozzola**  
City of Campbell



**Sergio Lopez**  
City of Campbell



**Sheila Mohan**  
City of Cupertino

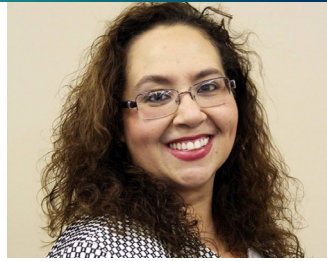


**Hung Wei**  
City of Cupertino *Alternate*





**Zach Hilton**  
City of Gilroy



**Rebeca Armendariz**  
City of Gilroy *Alternate*



**Sally Meadows**  
City of Los Altos



**Pete Dailey**  
Town of Los Altos Hills



**Rob Rennie**  
Town of Los Gatos



**Maria Ristow**  
Town of Los Gatos *Alternate*



**Evelyn Chua**  
City of Milpitas



**Carmen Montano**  
City of Milpitas *Alternate*



**Bryan Mekechuk**  
City of Monte Sereno



**Burton Craig**  
City of Monte Sereno *Alternate*



**Yvonne Martinez Beltran**  
City of Morgan Hill



**Tanya Carotheres**  
City of Morgan Hill *Alternate*



**Pat Showalter**  
City of Mountain View



**Margaret Abe-Koga**  
City of Mountain View *Alternate*



**Larry Klein**  
City of Sunnyvale



**Murali Srinivasan**  
City of Sunnyvale *Alternate*



**Otto Lee**  
Santa Clara County



**Sylvia Arenas**  
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 Supplier Diversity Program Activities During the Previous Calendar Year

### EFFORTS TO INCREASE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

#### 2023 Supplier Diversity Activities

SVCE currently has 15 of its 52 staff who allocate a portion of their time to supplier diversity activities. This staff includes the Director of Decarbonization Programs and Policy, the Director of Legislative Policy and members of the Legislative and Regulatory Policy, Power Resources, Energy Services and Community Relations, Decarbonization Programs and Policy, and Administration and Finance teams. Supplier diversity activities include procurement, collecting data on WMDVLGBTBE, and 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 participation at the CPUC's Annual Supplier Diversity Expo and En Banc, 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.

The number of staff has expanded to focus on SVCE's Supplier Diversity program. Solicitation language has been incorporated in the Request for Offer/Request for Proposal (RFO/RFP) process to promote diverse supplier engagement. Marketing and outreach of supplier diversity materials have increased to encourage opportunities through appropriate local channels. Engagement and collaboration of supplier diversity initiatives among current staff have progressed.

#### 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 retained outside counsel to understand its legal limitations and rights under Proposition 209, while exploring how it can push supplier diversity forward.

#### Improving Diverse Supplier Access to SVCE Solicitations

SVCE took these actions to support diverse suppliers in participating in SVCE solicitations, while still complying with Proposition 209: incorporating language in the RFO/RFP template, marketing a Supplier Diversity webpage on the SVCE site<sup>3</sup>, sponsorship of a DVBE, reaching out to vendors to share the CPUC diverse supplier portal and encouraging them to register, posting bids directly to CPUC's Supplier Diversity Clearinghouse, and exploring whether SVCE could give bonus points to local, small and diverse businesses.

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

<sup>3</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/supplier-diversity/>

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





## 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.

## Data Collection

As a Community Choice Aggregator, the vast majority of SVCE's operating budget (95%) 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 C. In October 2023, SVCE updated its email survey design and process to monitor open and click rates. This is the first year SVCE increased its outreach list to include all contracted vendors, which has increased engagement. A copy of the email survey design can be found in Appendix D.



## EQUITABLE CUSTOMER ACCESS TO SVCE DECARBONIZATION PROGRAMS

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

In December 2018, SVCE adopted the Decarbonization Strategy & Programs Roadmap,<sup>4</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.

SVCE's mission to help its communities reach complete decarbonization as rapidly and effectively as possible necessitates that it finds and demonstrates solutions that work for customers across demographics of income, race, sex, color, ethnicity, home ownership status, single- or multifamily-residence, and more.

To best identify how to apply "Equity in Service" to program decisions, SVCE needed to understand its customer base and build a picture of the most vulnerable customers. SVCE leveraged its available data to complete a Buildings Baseline Study<sup>5</sup> in 2020 and an Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Infrastructure Baseline Study<sup>6</sup> in 2021. These analyses included a review of disadvantaged community metrics and technology adoption to date. Examples are shown in the figures and table below.

<sup>4</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/SVCERoadmap/>

<sup>5</sup> [https://svcleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SVCE-Buildings-Baseline-Study\\_FINAL\\_share.pdf](https://svcleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SVCE-Buildings-Baseline-Study_FINAL_share.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/EV-and-EVI-Baseline-Study.pdf>

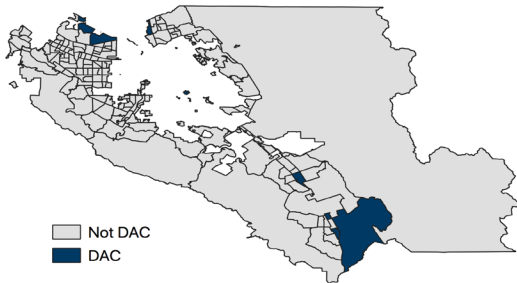




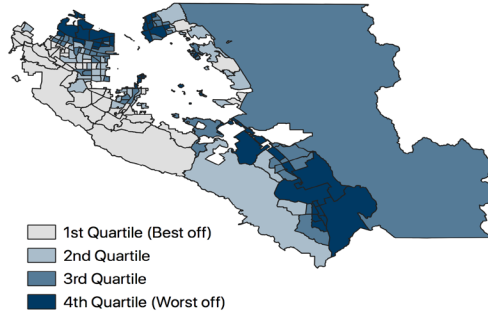
Identifying adoption trends in this data was a critical early step in SVCE’s pursuit of equity in its programs. Figure 1 has four maps comparing different metrics that could be used to track equity impacts and where they fall in SVCE service territory.

Note that SVCE reviewed diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) indicators in 2020 and based on the available data and specific needs and issues of its territory decided to use the SocioEconomic Vulnerability Index (SEVI) as a primary community indicator of barriers to energy security and decarbonization participation. SEVI captures education attainment, housing burden, linguistic isolation, poverty, and unemployment at the census tract level, and is developed by the CPUC. To make more usable by SVCE and the local community, SVCE separated its census tracts into four quartiles based on the SEVI scores such that the first quartile indicates the least vulnerable census tracts and the fourth quartile indicates the most vulnerable census tracts. For the primary household indicator, SVCE chose to use participation in California Alternate Rates for Energy Program/Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (CARE/FERA).

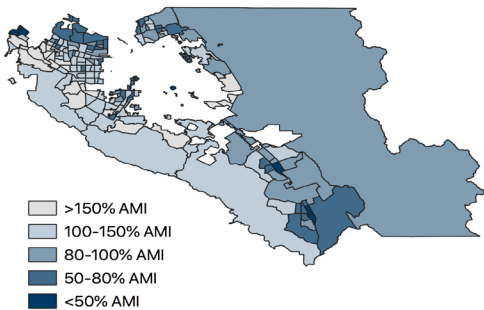
A. CalEnviroScreen – DAC



B. Regionalized CalEnviroScreen – CES



C. Area Median Income – AMI



D. Socioeconomic Vulnerability Index – SEVI

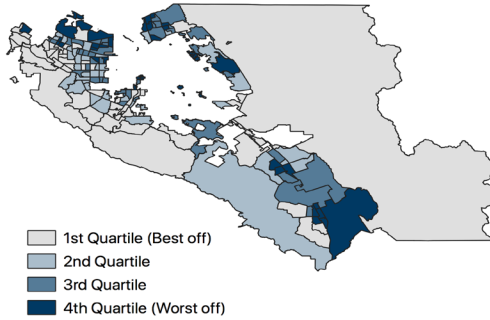


Figure 1: Comparison map of equity indicators from SVCE Building Baseline Study



	SEVI (count/1000 residents)		AMI (count/1000 residents)	
	Worst off quartile	Best of Quartile	Low Income (<80% AMI)	High Income (>150% AMI)
EV/PHEVs	9	48	12	49
BTM Solar	8	38	11	39
BTM Storage	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.9

Table 1: Table comparing technology adoption to customer vulnerability, showing the major disparities that exist, from SVCE Building Baseline Study





### Percent of Total EV Ownership by SEVI Quartile (1 = least vulnerable, 4 = most vulnerable)

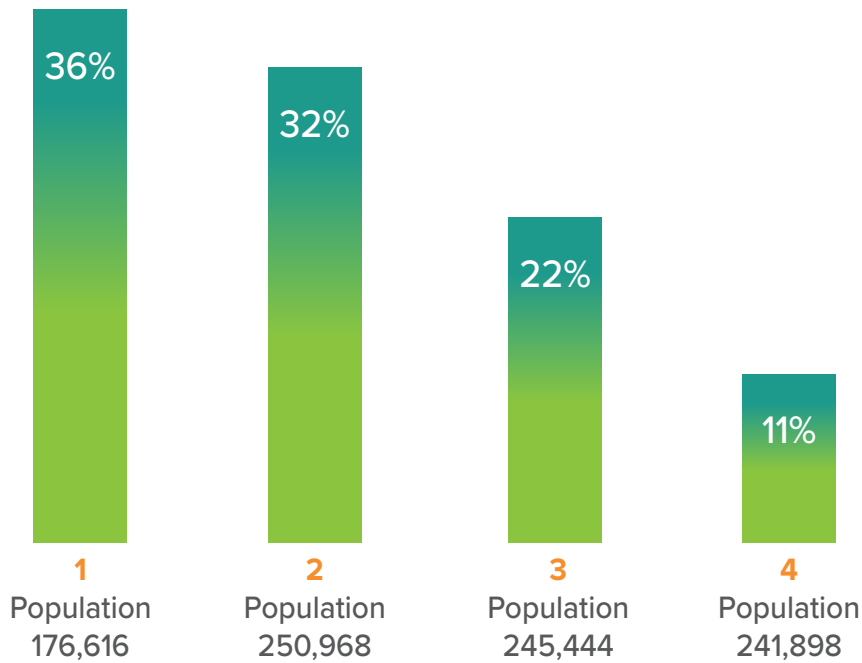


Figure 2: Representation of disparities in EV ownership across SVCE populations from EV and EV Infrastructure Baseline Study

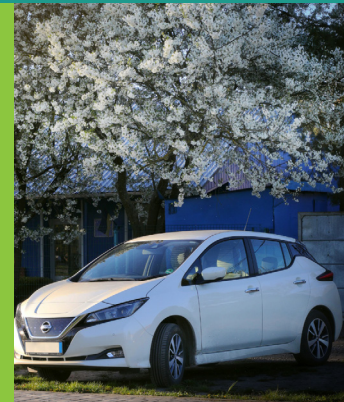


Figure 2 looked at the lowest and highest quartiles of SEVI and Area Median Income (AMI) to analyze adoption trends of key technologies. Table 1 shows disparities in EV ownership across the SEVI quartiles. These visual elements are examples of the work done by SVCE to consider how its programs could best exemplify "Equity in Service."

SVCE continues to use SEVI and CARE/FERA today when considering its program impacts and where additional efforts are needed. See Figures 3 and 4 on the next page for excerpts from an October 2023 presentation to SVCE's Board<sup>7</sup>. These slides were used by staff to convey how an existing incentive program was performing and explain the expected impact of three new programs that will be launched in 2024 to better extend SVCE's reach to other populations.



<sup>7</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/board-meetings/>



## Some Residents Will Need More Support

### Socioeconomic Vulnerability Index (SEVI)

- Census tract metric, regionalized into quartiles
- Calculated from scores for poverty, linguistic isolation, education attainment, housing burden, unemployment

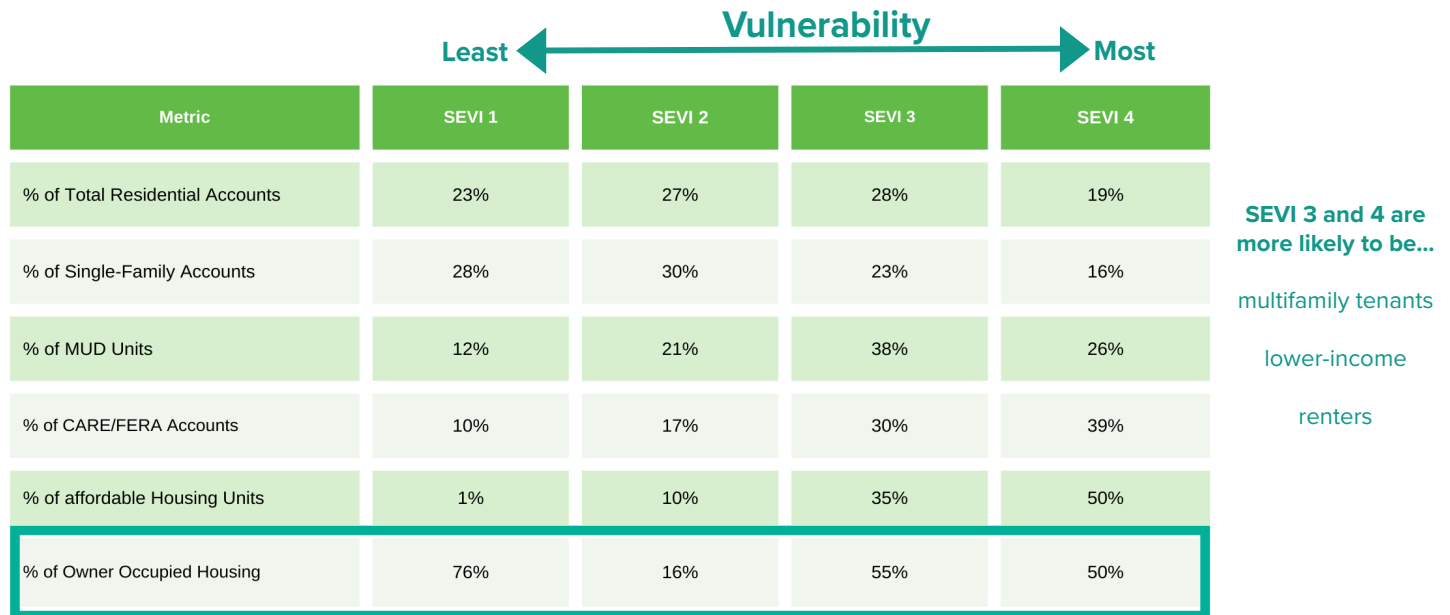


FIGURE 3 % of accounts in SVCE territory with SEVI 1-4 scores

## We look at who FFH is reaching today, and consider what else we should adjust

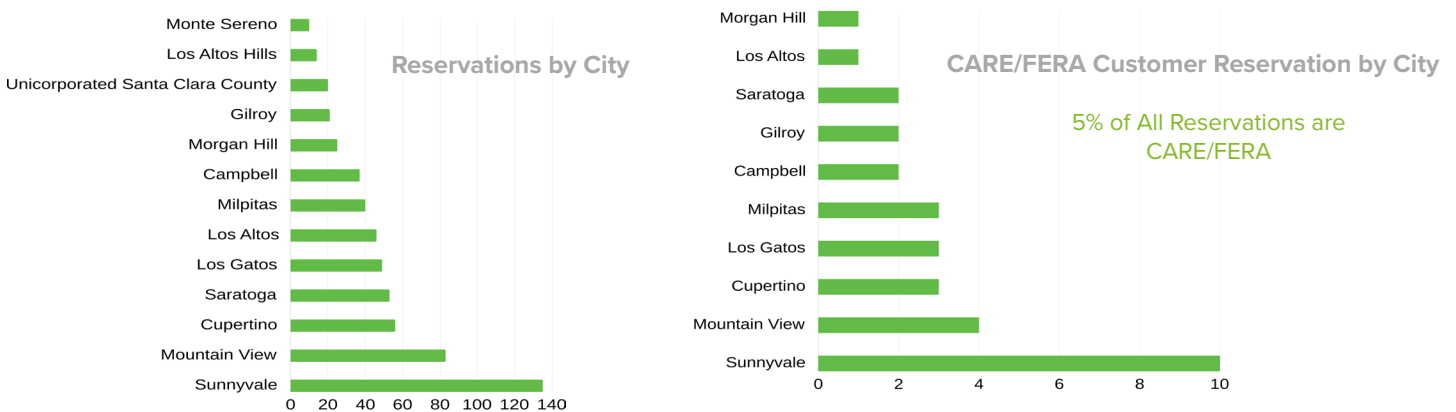


FIGURE 4

During 2021, SVCE built on its analyses to develop an Equity Framework. This framework provides guidance on program design, management and evaluation to help staff effectively consider equity throughout the program lifecycle. The framework was informed by resources created by equity-focused organizations, as well as conversations with energy program staff with experience supporting diverse populations.

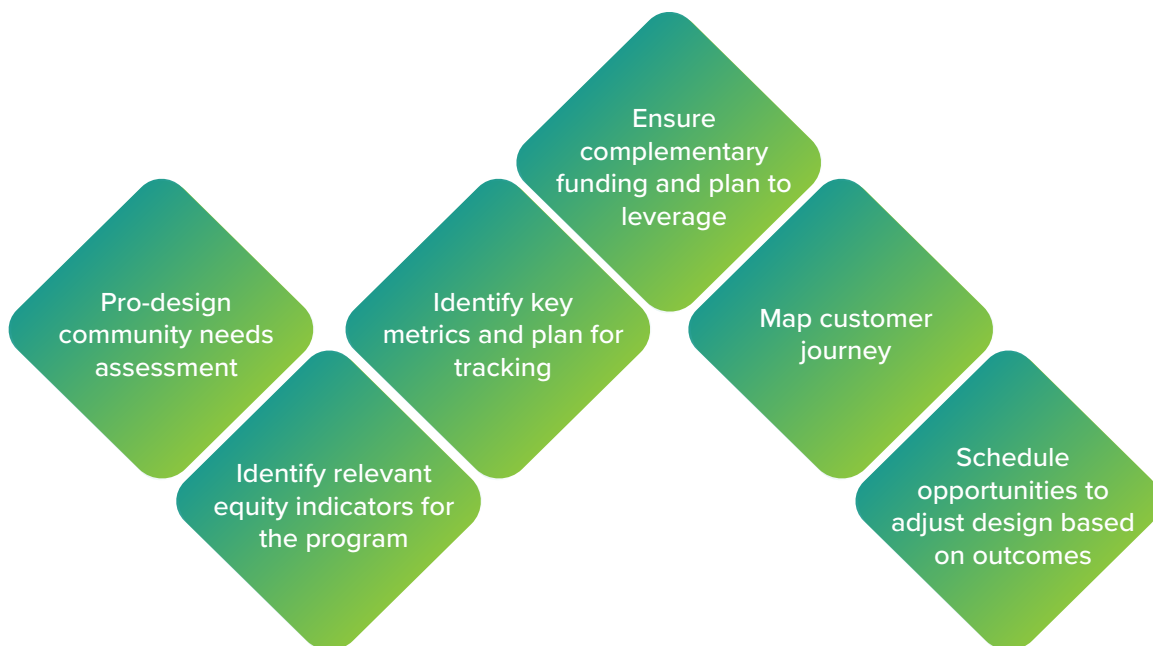




Core principles identified to address equity include strengthening community engagement, increasing use of equity metrics, and creating feedback loops to adapt program design. A key feature identified in the Equity Framework is the development of strong ties with local community-based organizations to gather on-the-ground input into decisions made based on the core principles. The framework helps to ensure SVCE staff systematically incorporate equity considerations across the portfolio of programs.

In 2023, SVCE added a staff position to focus on building ties in local communities, particularly workforce, housing, and low-moderate income groups, through the development of a regional network. Stakeholder mapping has been completed and SVCE spent the second half of 2023 meeting with an initial set of organizations to start to establish working relationships. This network will teach SVCE about key DEI issues for the populations they represent and provide targeted input on program designs. Where necessary, SVCE intends to pay stakeholders for their time in engaging with this network to ensure less-resourced organizations or individuals are just as able to participate.

With this work, SVCE seeks to better reach communities that have not historically been engaged in decision-making and whose access to key information and resources is limited when it comes to energy issues and receiving the benefits of decarbonization. These communities can face barriers associated with lower socioeconomic status (affordable housing tenants, CARE/FERA customers), type and ownership of housing (renters, tenants of older multifamily properties), geographic isolation, language barriers or cultural isolation, or limited access to digital platforms.



**Figure 5: Six steps in the Equity Framework**

To further help SVCE staff systematically incorporate equity considerations across the portfolio of programs, SVCE developed a checklist in 2022 that walks through some key questions and topics. Staff incorporated checklist utilization for new programs and SVCE intends to continue revisiting existing programs and to adjust the checklist as Staff learns through its use. In 2023, SVCE hired an external expert and kicked off formal training for programs and policy decarbonization staff on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) topics to expand staff's awareness of key issues and language.



This training will conclude in 2024 and staff plans to revise SVCE's decarbonization DEIB efforts to reflect what is learned and keep improving its efforts in this area. The ultimate goal of this training and all of SVCE's past and future work on equity is to make sure that SVCE is successful in generating meaningful participation and co-creation of its efforts from all voices and perspectives in its communities. SVCE continues to commit resources to ensuring that all its customers are able to participate in beneficial electrification and achieve widespread decarbonization.

## Examples of Programs to Support the Climate Workforce & Low-Income Communities

SVCE has executed programs since 2019, across a variety of sectors and technologies at various scales. These programs often require SVCE to solicit external support for design and administration, which has led to partnerships with a broad array of companies. SVCE has contracts for program support with companies large and small, local and international, early-stage and late-stage, minority, LGBTQ, and female-led. Some examples are included below:

- The SVCE Data Hive<sup>8</sup> offered via 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 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>9</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>10</sup> demonstrated a low-power charging technology and business model designed specifically for affordable housing communities. Both pilots subsequently received grant funds from the CEC to scale the approach.
- SVCE launched an online contractor training course in partnership with the San Jose Evergreen Community College District – Workforce Institute to promote awareness of electrification technologies and opportunities. This FutureFit Fundamentals<sup>11</sup> program pays local contractors \$500 to complete a 5-hour course. Incentivizing local contractors strengthens our community and promotes diversity.
- SVCE has several active full-scale EV charging programs, which have varying workforce requirements including Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) certification and payment of prevailing wage. CALeVIP<sup>12</sup> is installing thousands of chargers, the Priority Zone DC Fast Charger<sup>13</sup> program targets sites near clusters of older multifamily properties, and SVCE's technical assistance<sup>14</sup> offers incentives and support to property managers in exploring their EV charger options. New construction affordable housing units can also receive these incentives to help them install EV charging. Across programs, these requirements and support are intended to help all contractors, and particularly smaller, local, and diverse ones, benefit from “high road economic development” when working on electrification projects.

<sup>8</sup> <https://data.svcleanenergy.org/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation-evmatch/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation-ecologyaction/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/futurefit-fundamentals/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/calevip/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/dcfastchargers/>

<sup>14</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/multifamily-charging/>





- 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<sup>15</sup>. The program is expected to benefit hundreds of customers, particularly during future iterations of the Public Safety Power Shutoff events that began in 2019.
- SVCE has been working on securing CPUC approval for a Tariffed On-Bill (TOB) pilot since early 2022. Per the Building Decarbonization Coalition, “A tariffed on-bill program allows a utility to pay for cost-effective energy improvements at a specific residence, such as home heating and cooling units, and to recover its costs for those improvements over time through a dedicated charge on the utility bill that is immediately less than the estimated savings from the improvements.” This financing mechanism can support rental and lower income properties. SVCE continued to advocate for its TOB concept at the state level in 2023 and received positive feedback from CPUC Commissioner Darcie L. Houck<sup>16</sup>.
- A major priority for SVCE in 2023 was the formation of a regional network of organizations that reflect key customer interests that historically have not been incorporated into program and policy design. SVCE not only created such a group, but built strong, lasting connections with the participants to inform SVCE’s efforts into the future. SVCE hired staff and carved out time to focus on this ongoing process and began engaging a subset of its list of key stakeholder groups.



<sup>15</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/lights-on-sv/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/news-and-updates/all-news/cpuc-expands-on-bill-financing-options-for-non-residential-energy-utility-customers-2023>



## Equity in Customer Outreach and Marketing

To assess its customer base, SVCE has used the SEVI, CalEnviroScreen,<sup>17</sup> area AMI and household metrics such as customers on CARE<sup>18</sup> and FERA<sup>19</sup> rates in that assessment. SVCE annually conducts an extensive customer survey using SEVI, in specific, to provide more detailed insight into responses. SVCE conducted its third residential customer survey in 2023 to obtain updated information on its customers. SVCE continues to review and reference the survey results to inform program and outreach actions.

SVCE's Energy Services and Community Relations, Power Resources, and Finance and Administration teams partnered to streamline data collection and raise awareness of SVCE's Supplier Diversity program through the enhancement of SVCE's Supplier Diversity Survey. Additionally, SVCE has actively marketed its Supplier Diversity program via social media channels, local newsletters and reference to its Supplier Diversity webpage, which describes the CPUC's Supplier Diversity program, certification eligibility requirements, incentives of visibility on the Supplier Clearinghouse, and resources to further knowledge of program participation. SVCE is exploring ways to partner with Emerald Cities Collaborative to encourage contracting opportunities for women, BIPOC and other disadvantaged communities. SVCE attended another CCA's Emerald Cities E-Contractor Academy Graduation and Networking Event to gain insight on future workforce considerations. SVCE has provided translation services for contractor trainings and is exploring ways to integrate multi-language campaigns. SVCE is also participating as a member in various regional efforts that center equity in building electrification, such as the Bay Area Building Electrification High Road Training Partnership<sup>20</sup>, which has equity as a key pillar of its workforce focus.

In 2023, SVCE continued implementing principles of its equity framework that improved its in-language marketing and outreach tactics. Additionally, guiding principles have been integrated into SVCE's marketing plans to help center equity and inform decision-making. SVCE continues to support in-language marketing tactics by creating language-specific web pages and program applications to reach diverse audiences of its programs. In launching the FutureFit Fundamentals Contractor Training, SVCE prioritized development of a mailer in Spanish and English. The SVCE FutureFit Homes Program included applications and webpage communication in multiple languages. SVCE continues to work with local media outlets that reach popular languages in its service territory.

## Advocating for Equitable Policies

In 2023, some examples of SVCE's advocacy included supporting state budget funding for building decarbonization funds to bring down electrification costs. SVCE also supported legislation including AB 593 (Haney) that would have directed the state to create a roadmap for building decarbonization and SB 527 (Min) that would have created a neighborhood zonal decarbonization program at the CPUC.

<sup>17</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>18</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>19</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.

<sup>20</sup> [https://cwdb.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/43/2021/04/2021.HRTP\\_RisingSun\\_ACCESSIBLE.pdf](https://cwdb.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/43/2021/04/2021.HRTP_RisingSun_ACCESSIBLE.pdf)





## Section 9.1.2 Supplier Diversity Results of Goods and Services (Non-Power Purchases) if Procured

The tables below provide information on SVCE’s WMDVLGBTBE annual results. In 2023, SVCE saw a 2.32% 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 part 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. SVCE also pays PG&E for customer billing. Those numbers are not reflected in this report.

			2023 Report							
			Direct Spend <sup>1</sup> \$	Sub Spend <sup>2</sup> \$	Total \$	%	Product Spend \$	Service Spend \$	Total \$	%
1	Minority Male	African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
2		Asian Pacific American	\$206,448	\$0	\$206,448	1.58%	\$0	\$206,448	\$206,448	1.58%
3		Hispanic American	\$12,827	\$0	\$12,827	0.10%	\$0	\$12,827	\$12,827	0.10%
4		Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
5		Total Minority Male	\$0	\$0	\$219,275	1.68%	\$0	\$219,275	\$219,275	1.68%
6	Minority Female	African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
7		Asian Pacific American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
8		Hispanic American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
9		Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
10		Total Minority Female	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
11	Total Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)		\$219,275	\$0	\$219,275	1.68%	\$0	\$219,275	\$219,275	1.68%
12	Women Business Enterprise (WBE)		\$244,721	\$0	\$244,721	1.88%	\$0	\$244,721	\$244,721	1.88%
13	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)		\$11,119	\$0	\$11,119	0.09%	\$0	\$11,119	\$11,119	0.09%
14	Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)		\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
15	Persons with Disabilities Business Enterprises (DBE)		\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
	8(a) <sup>6</sup>		\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
17	<b>Total Supplier Diversity Spend</b>		<b>\$475,115</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$475,115</b>	<b>3.65%</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$475,115</b>	<b>\$475,115</b>	<b>3.65%</b>
18	<b>Net Procurement</b>		<b>\$13,029,643</b>							
19	<b>Net Product Procurement</b>		<b>\$540,439</b>							
20	<b>Net Service Procurement</b>		<b>\$12,489,204</b>							
21	<b>Total Number of Diverse Suppliers</b>		<b>10</b>							





## Section 9.1.2 Diverse Suppliers with Majority Workforce in California

Eight of ten of the WMDVLGBTBEs contracted by Silicon Valley Clean Energy in 2023 have the majority of their workforce in California. Some activities of these in-state vendors are closely aligned with the equity framework mentioned in Section 9.1.1. SVCE selected Ecology Action for a pilot to deploy low-cost EV charging to low and moderate-income multifamily properties. SVCE is also supporting Ecology Action's subsequent grant from the CEC to deploy their pilot at a larger scale. Similarly, SVCE supported a pilot with EVmatch, a female-led organization, with a subsequent grant from the CEC to deploy EV charging at multifamily properties. Additionally, Joe Wiedman represents SVCE on modernizing the grid for a high distributed energy resources future. Lastly, SVCE selected Vistar (XeroHome) for a small innovation pilot to build features for homeowners to understand their emissions and pursue decarbonization activities.

## Section 9.1.3 Supplier Diversity Program Expense

SVCE	2023	GO 156 Section 9.1.3
Supplier Diversity Program Expense		

Expense Category	Year (Actual)
Wages	\$120,000
Other Employee Expenses	0
Program Expenses	0
Reporting Expenses	0
Training Expenses	0
Consultant Expenses	\$2,090
Other Expenses	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$122,090</b>

Overall, SVCE's eight of ten diverse suppliers are entirely California-based with seven across Northern California, and three locally in Silicon Valley, based on location data from the Supplier Clearinghouse.





## Section 9.1.5 Prime Contractors Utilization of Diverse Subcontractors

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

As discussed above, over 95 percent of SVCE's operating budget is allocated to power supply and purchasing. SVCE surveyed all contracted vendors. Twenty-two counterparties responded. No respondents confirmed that they used diverse subcontractors. One vendor indicated its qualification.

## Section 9.1.6 List of Supplier Diversity Complaints Received and Current Status

SVCE has not received any complaints from WMDVLGBTBE.

## Section 9.1.9 Supplier Diversity Activities and Progress in Power Procurement

SVCE developed language for use on its website and solicitation materials to promote awareness of the Supplier Clearinghouse, CPUC's central supplier database, and encourage certification for WMDVLGBTBE. The primary version reads:

"All qualified organizations are encouraged to respond, including minority-owned and women-owned organizations. Pursuant to Prop 209, SVCE does not give preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

SVCE strongly encourages certification through the Supplier Diversity Clearinghouse as appropriate for contract opportunities. Learn more at: <https://svcleanenergy.org/supplier-diversity/>. Pursuant to General Order 156 (GO156), SVCE is required to submit an Annual Plan and Report on the utilization of Women, Minority, Disabled Veteran, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprises (WMDVLGBTBE). Request for Offer (RFO) participants who execute a contract will be asked to complete a questionnaire."

SVCE markets its Supplier Diversity webpage to reiterate its commitment to diversity and inclusion, define qualifications for diverse supplier certification, include steps on how to get certified, and provide resources for suppliers seeking certification. SVCE also linked its primary Supplier Diversity page from its Solicitations page<sup>21</sup> to entice visibility of the Supplier Diversity program to those seeking power procurement opportunities. SVCE's Supplier Diversity website details can be found in Appendix A.

<sup>21</sup> <https://svcleanenergy.org/solicitations/>



SVCE’s RFO materials have been updated to include a separate Supplier Diversity section. Supplier Diversity RFO language can be found in Appendix B.

To increase its reach to diverse businesses, SVCE is posting its RFO/RFP bids directly to the Supplier Clearinghouse to promote current contract opportunities to certified diverse businesses. SVCE continues to survey its power vendors to foster awareness of the Supplier Diversity program and entice diverse suppliers to get certified. Survey results showed one of its power vendors is working on registering as a disabled veteran owned business, and others have sustainable workforce policies and multi-trade project labor agreements (PLAs) in place. As mentioned in Section 9.1.2, this survey can be found in Appendix C.

## Section 9.1.9 Supplier Diversity Results in Power Procurement

		Direct Power Purchases \$	Direct Fuels for Generation \$			Totals \$ <sup>1</sup>			% <sup>2</sup>
		Renewable and Non-Renewable Power Products	Diesel	Nuclear	Natural Gas	Direct <sup>3</sup>	Sub <sup>4</sup>	Total \$ <sup>5</sup>	
<b>Minority Male</b>	African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Asian Pacific American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Hispanic American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	<b>Total Minority Male</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Minority Female</b>	African American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Asian Pacific American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Hispanic American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Native American	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	<b>Total Minority Female</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Total Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Women Business Enterprise (WBE)</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Persons with Disabilities Business Enterprises (DBE)</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>8(a)<sup>6</sup></b>									
<b>Total Supplier Diversity</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Net Power Procurement</b>		<b>\$54,751,108</b>							
<b>Net Direct Power Purchases</b>		<b>\$54,751,108</b>							
<b>Net Direct Fuels for Generation</b>		<b>\$0</b>							
<b>Total Number of Diverse Suppliers</b>		<b>0</b>							



## Section 10.2 Description of Supplier Diversity Program Activities Planned for the Next Calendar Year

### EFFORTS TO INCREASE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

#### 2024 Supplier Diversity Activities

##### Expanding SVCE's Supply Chain

In 2024, SVCE will continue to 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.

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

In 2023, SVCE onboarded key personnel with experience in community organizing and community outreach who have the capacity to dedicate time toward building relationships to strengthen workforce development and collaboration with diverse suppliers. These staff members are currently working with internal teams to expand SVCE's program offerings to low income and other vulnerable communities, identify training needs for SVCE staff on equity, and working to build relationships with local community-based organizations to inform program design. SVCE kicked off DEIB training provided by an external expert for the Decarbonization Programs and Policy team in 2023 that will continue into 2024 to increase the team's familiarity with and ability to engage on key equity topics and amplify the work of dedicated equity personnel.

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. In 2023, SVCE hired a Programs Lead in the Decarbonization Programs and Policy team to spearhead coalition building and community outreach. The Programs Lead works with the Director of Government and Legislative Affairs to conduct stakeholder outreach. SVCE also hired a fulltime Community Outreach Specialist on the Energy Services and Community Relations team who also works with the staff leading community and stakeholder outreach. This has further expanded SVCE's abilities to dedicate resources to engaging with community and local business organizations. In 2023, SVCE met with 15 educational/workforce training institutions.

In 2023, SVCE explored a procurement policy modeled after another CCA that provides bonus point preferences to local, small, persons with disabilities and disabled veteran businesses. Additionally, SVCE provided sponsorship to a Disabled Veterans organization to increase visibility and opportunities within its member network.





## EXPANDING EQUITABLE CUSTOMER ACCESS

### 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 2024. SVCE also plans to grow its equity considerations during program design and management through additional resources for staff and relationships with local community-based organizations. The DEIB training for all decarbonization programs and policy staff will serve as a starting point in 2024 to revisit ongoing equity efforts and make adjustments to better reflect the current landscape.

In early 2024, SVCE intends to launch a \$12.5M no-cost electrification program for deed-restricted affordable housing multifamily properties, including weatherization and electric baseboard heating replacement to reduce bills. SVCE also plans to launch a TOB financing pilot to reach renters and low-moderate income customers that may not have up-front capital available. A hotline for customers who wish to ask questions about electrification and need help connecting to available incentives or walking through electrification planning was made available in a December 2023 “soft launch” and will be marketed heavily in 2024 – this service includes support for multiple languages<sup>22</sup>. Staff will continue to revise existing programs and add new ones like those above based on feedback from local organizations, customers, and data on customer participation; all in service of demonstrating solutions that are scalable, innovative, and can reach the diverse set of customers SVCE serves.

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 received bill credits from the State’s California Arrearage Payment Program. In addition, the SVCE Board of Directors voted in 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.

From 2020 to 2023, the SVCE Board of Directors has offered an additional discount in the form of bill credits to income-qualified CARE/FERA customers, totaling \$9.25M. This credit will continue in 2024. Work on the aforementioned programs will continue in 2024.

### Advocating for Equitable Policies

In 2024, 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. As mentioned in Section 9.1.1, SVCE’s advocacy included supporting state funding to help low-income populations.

<sup>22</sup> <https://goelectric.svcleanenergy.org/>





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. SVCE will also focus on phasing out natural gas in buildings and increasing access to multi-family electric vehicle charging. Ensuring that vulnerable communities benefit from these efforts is a top priority for SVCE.

## 10.2 Plans to Encourage Prime Contractors to Subcontract Small, Local, and Diverse Businesses

SVCE participated in the CPUC/Joint Utilities Business Expo and En Banc events. SVCE's Community Outreach Specialist provided information on partnering with SVCE, and the Regulatory and Compliance Manager was a panelist on the How to Navigate Procurement Opportunities with Community Choice Aggregators discussion. SVCE explained its approach to procurement and contracting for energy and non-energy contracts, involvement with small and local diverse businesses, training and development opportunities, and best practices on navigating opportunities with CCAs. SVCE continues engagement with the CPUC and other CCAs to gain knowledge on their practices to encourage small, local, and diverse businesses. As SVCE increases its efforts to engage with diverse suppliers, it will distinctly discuss with those holding subcontracts how they will reach out to find diverse suppliers themselves.

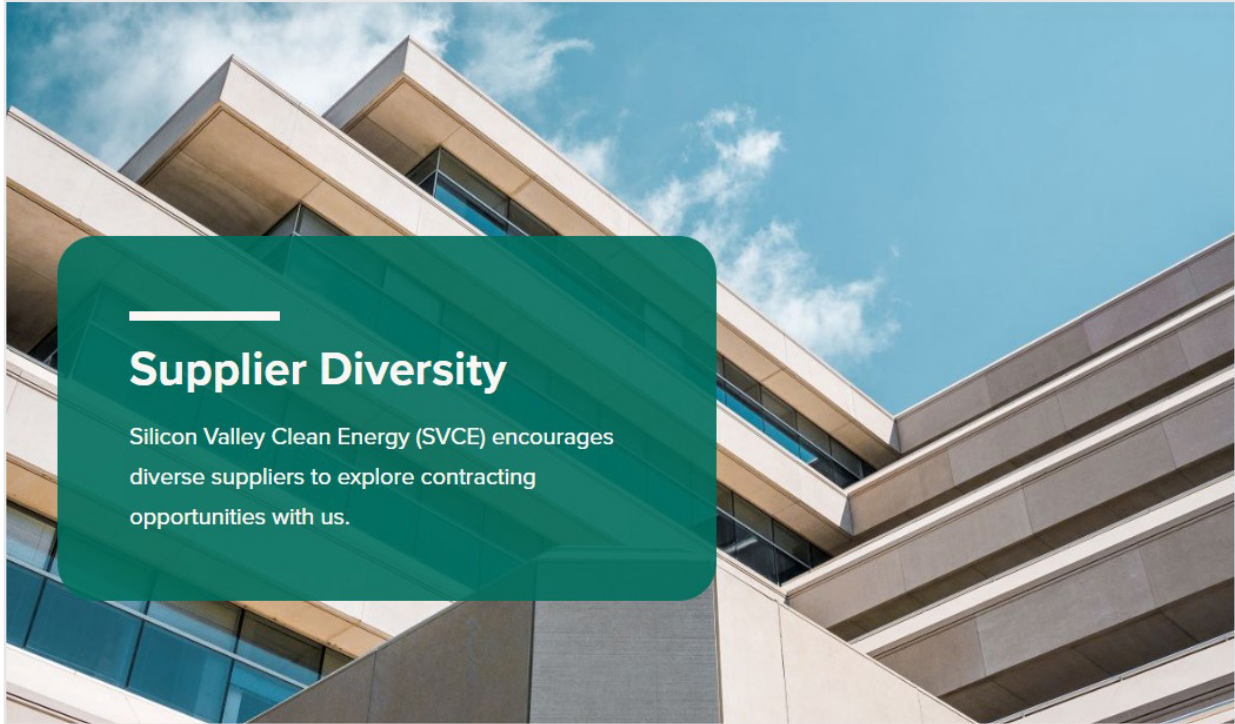






# Appendix A

## SVCE's Supplier Diversity Website



### Supplier Diversity

Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) encourages diverse suppliers to explore contracting opportunities with us.

### SVCE is committed to Supplier Diversity

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) administers the [Supplier Diversity Program](#), which certifies diverse businesses through the [Supplier Clearinghouse](#), providing opportunities for women, minority, LGBT, persons with disabilities, and disabled veteran businesses.



### Why should you get certified?

- Registration is free
- More visibility on being listed on a centralized supplier database
- Access to resources, bid information and networking opportunities
- Official recognition of WMDVLGBTBE status
- Certification is valid for three years







# Appendix A

## SVCE's Supplier Diversity Website

### Do you qualify?

Businesses must be at least 51% owned by a minority, woman, disabled veteran, or LGBT person or persons, with management and daily business operations controlled by one of more of those persons.



### How do I get certified?

1. Apply through the CPUC [Supplier Clearinghouse Certification](#) or California Department of General Services (DGS) [Government Marketplace](#)
2. Applications will be reviewed within four weeks
3. Certification renewal is every three years

[Get Certified](#)



### Resources

[Supplier Diversity Survey](#)

[CPUC Supplier Clearinghouse Certification](#)

[Certifications in California](#)

[Supplier Clearinghouse Checklist](#)

[Supplier Clearinghouse Overview](#)

+ Supplier Diversity Reports





 Decarbonization and Grid Innovation Plans +

 Supplier Diversity Report -

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) administers the Supplier Diversity Program, which certifies diverse businesses through the Supplier Clearinghouse, providing opportunities for women, minority, LGBT, persons with disabilities, and disabled veteran businesses. Learn more [here](#).

2021 Supplier Diversity Report

2020 Supplier Diversity Report

 Annual PG&E Joint Rate Mailer +

## SVCE's Supplier Diversity Efforts

Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) is committed to Supplier Diversity and encourages diverse suppliers to get certified through the California Public Utilities Commission's Supplier Diversity Program.

[Learn More](#) 



## Appendix B

# SVCE's Supplier Diversity RFO Materials

## 7 Supplier Diversity

All qualified organizations are encouraged to respond, including minority-owned and women-owned organizations.

SVCE is an equal opportunity employer. All responses will be evaluated under the same criteria. Pursuant to Proposition 209, a government entity such as SVCE is prohibited from granting preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment or public contracting.

RFP respondents that execute a contract with SVCE will be asked to complete a supplier diversity questionnaire. As a public agency and consistent with state law, SVCE will not use any provided information in any part of its selection process. Rather, SVCE will use the information to comply with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) reporting requirements. Pursuant to General Order 156 (G0156), SVCE is required to submit a detailed and verifiable annual plan and report on the utilization of women-owned, minority-owned, disabled veteran-owned and LGBT-owned business enterprises' procurement. Consistent with the California Public Utilities Code and State policy objectives, SVCE will collect information regarding supplier diversity and labor practices from project developers and their subcontractors regarding past, current and/or planned efforts and policies.

SVCE encourages businesses that qualify for diverse business enterprise status to obtain certification through CPUC's Supplier Diversity Clearinghouse. The certification is voluntary and cannot be used as a criterion for bid evaluation. For information on the certification process and requirements, please visit SVCE's Supplier Diversity page.





# Appendix C

## SVCE's Supplier Diversity Survey



### Supplier Diversity Survey

#### 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.

1. Email Address

2. Business Name

3. Where is your business located/headquartered?



4. Is your business certified under General Order 156 (GO 156)?


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 <https://sch.thesupplierclearinghouse.com/>

- Yes
- No
- Qualified as a WMDVLGBTBE but not GO 156 Certified

5. If certified, when does your certification expire?

Date

Date



6. If you answered "yes" or "qualified but not certified", under which categories? Please choose all that apply.

\*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.

- Minority Owned
- Woman owned
- LGBT owned
- Disabled Veteran Owned
- Other 8(a) (found to be disadvantaged by the US Small Business Administration)

7. If a minority-owned business enterprise, certified or qualified as which of the following?

\*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.

- African American
- Asian American
- Hispanic American
- Native American



8. Please list the Standardized Industrial Code (SIC) of the products and services contracted for. Reference sheet, here:  
[www.osha.gov/data/sic-manual](http://www.osha.gov/data/sic-manual)

9. If certified, please list your business's annual revenue as reported to the Supplier Clearinghouse.

10. If your business is qualified but not GO 156 certified, please explain why your business has not gone through the certification process.

11. If your business will use GO 156 certified subcontractors for your SVCE contract, please include a list of your subcontractor business names, if their subcontract is for products or services, and the anticipated subcontract amount.

Example: Electrical Design Technology, Inc; products (batteries); \$100,000. If SVCE is audited, we'll ask you for demonstration that subcontractor payments have occurred, such as a canceled check, bank statement, etc.

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





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 cities and towns of Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Saratoga, Sunnyvale, and unincorporated parts of 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

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.

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.

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.

Done

Powered by  
 **SurveyMonkey**  
See how easy it is to [create a survey](#).





## Appendix D

# SVCE's Supplier Diversity Email Survey Design



## Supplier Diversity Survey

Your Input Matters!

### Silicon Valley Clean Energy Supplier Diversity

At Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE), we are committed to fostering diversity and inclusivity in our community. As part of our ongoing efforts, we would like to invite you to participate in our Supplier Diversity Survey.

This survey is a requirement mandated by the State of California, specifically Senate Bill 255 (Bradford, 2019). It extends the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Supplier Diversity Program to encompass all Community Choice Energy providers, including SVCE.

[Take Survey](#)

We want to assure you that your responses to this survey will not impact our ongoing working relationship. We are collecting this information solely for reporting and compliance purposes, as mandated by Senate Bill 255 and CPUC's General Order 156. **Your participation will take no more than 10 minutes**, and your cooperation is highly appreciated.





# Appendix D

## SVCE's Supplier Diversity Email Survey Design

### CPUC Supplier Clearinghouse and why it's so important:

1. The program actively monitors and promotes diversity in our procurement processes.
2. It maintains a clearinghouse of women, minority, disabled veteran, and LGBT-owned businesses, which can provide increased exposure and visibility for your business if certified.
3. To be eligible for certification, businesses must have at least 51% ownership by a minority, woman, disabled veteran, or LGBT individual(s), with their involvement in daily management and operations.



If your business is eligible and hasn't registered with the CPUC Supplier Clearinghouse, we encourage you to explore this opportunity. Additional information about the Supplier Clearinghouse can be found by visiting our dedicated webpage: [SVCE Supplier Diversity](#)

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and for your commitment to diversity in our community. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact us at [svcesupplierdiversity@svcleanenergy.org](mailto:svcesupplierdiversity@svcleanenergy.org).

Thank you,

Silicon Valley Clean Energy Staff



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You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from future emails.

By unsubscribing, you will no longer receive electronic communications from SVCE about relevant offers and services to help you save money and energy. SVCE may continue to send you notices required by the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission.



# 2023 SUPPLIER DIVERSITY REPORT

