



TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Town Council **Date:** December 8, 2015

From: Frank W. Robinson, Town Manager **Item No:** 10

Subject: AUTHORIZE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE VICTOR VALLEY
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION AUTHORITY ADVANCED WATER
AND ENERGY PROJECT

T.M. Approval: _____ **Budgeted Item:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Town Council authorize a Letter of Support for the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority Advanced Water and Energy Project.

SUMMARY:

The Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (VWRA) is preparing to submit an application for its Advanced Water and Energy Project under the California Energy Commission's *GFO-15-317* grant opportunity, Group 2: Technology Demonstration and Deployment: Large Scale Demonstrations to Achieve Energy and Water Savings.

VWRA is requesting the grant funding from the California Energy Commission for the development of a microgrid and battery storage system at the VWRA facility.

BACKGROUND:

VWRA utilizes a retrofitted anaerobic digester that provides biogas (methane) to a pair of 800 kWh generators. The electricity produced by the generators is used to power much of the facility, making VWRA virtually energy neutral.

However, like any power system, VWRA is subject to unexpected interruptions. Energy storage and microgrid controls would protect the system from outages, allowing VWRA to continue to provide safe and reliable water treatment services for the Victor Valley communities of Victorville, Apple Valley, Hesperia, Spring Valley Lake and Oro Grande.



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Town of Apple Valley

14975 Dale Evans Parkway | Apple Valley, California 92307

December 8, 2015

California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

RE: Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority – Advanced Water and Energy Project

Dear California Energy Commission:

On behalf of the Apple Valley Town Council, it is my pleasure to support the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority's (VWVRA) Advanced Water and Energy Project application for the California Energy Commission's *GFO-15-317* grant opportunity (Group 2: Technology Demonstration and Deployment: Large Scale Demonstrations to Achieve Energy and Water Savings). VWVRA is seeking funding for the development of a microgrid and battery storage system at the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority facility.

VWVRA utilizes a retrofitted anaerobic digester which provides biogas (methane) to a pair of 800 kWh generators. The electricity produced by the generators is used to power much of the VWVRA facility, making VWVRA virtually energy neutral. However, like any power system, VWVRA is subject to unexpected interruptions. Energy storage and microgrid controls would protect that system from outages, allowing VWVRA to continue to provide safe and reliable water treatment services for the Victor Valley communities of Victorville, Apple Valley, Hesperia, Spring Valley Lake and Oro Grande.

The Town believes that the ability to produce and manage renewable energy occurs best at the local level where utilities can work together to address issues that will inevitably affect the entire region. VWVRA is a nationally recognized leader in sustainable energy development and has shown a commitment to long term energy management goals. VWVRA is an advocate that is leading the charge toward energy neutrality, while demonstrating an eagerness to innovate and lead.

Importantly, the VWVRA Advanced Water and Energy Project complies with the mandates set forth by the passage of SB 350 – The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015. The new law, signed by Governor Jerry Brown in October, requires 50% of the state's electricity come from renewable sources by 2030. The Advanced Water and Energy Project will enable VWVRA to deliver valuable renewable energy to Southern California Edison and its ratepayers in the High Desert and beyond.

Therefore, the Town of Apple Valley offers its full support of the development of a microgrid and battery storage system at Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority.

Sincerely,

Larry Cusack
Mayor