



Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council
FROM: Sean Rabé, Town Manager
DATE: October 11, 2022
RE: Resolution Approving Amendment No. 5 To The Amended And Restated Joint Exercise Of Powers Agreement For Pioneer Community Energy Expanding Pioneer Community Energy Joint Powers Authority Membership

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Town Council adopt a Resolution approving Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for Pioneer Community Energy expanding Pioneer Community Energy Joint Power Authority membership to include the City of Grass Valley and Nevada City as Voting Members and authorize the Mayor to execute same.

Issue Statement and Discussion

Pioneer Community Energy (Pioneer) is a Joint Powers Authority formed between the Counties of Placer and El Dorado, the Town of Loomis, and the Cities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Placerville, and Rocklin.

Pioneer is a Community Choice Aggregation Program (CCA) authorized under Assembly Bill 117 (2002). The CCA provides local control over the electricity supply with a primary goal of providing stable and competitive electricity rates to the residents and businesses within its member jurisdictions.

Pioneer purchases the electricity supply and PG&E transmits and delivers the power through PG&E's infrastructure (poles and wires). PG&E continues to own, operate, and maintain its distribution infrastructure. PG&E also continues to provide meter reading and billing services for Pioneer's customers.

On September 15, 2022, the Pioneer Community Energy Board received a presentation on the impact assessment study related to the proposed expansion. The results of that assessment determined the proposed expansion to be beneficial to both the existing customers in the current Pioneer service area, as well as potential customers in Grass Valley and Nevada City.

According to Pioneer Community Energy Staff, the expansion strengthens Pioneer and the member agencies share in Pioneer's improved position through the following:

- **Stable and Competitive Rates** – A stronger balance sheet supports maintaining Pioneer's competitive rates while allowing Pioneer to absorb power supply price shocks to maintain rate stability.
- **Legislative & Regulatory Influence** – A larger service territory also increases the pool of elected officials and strengthens Pioneer's influence with the California Public Utilities Commission and

state legislators. Pioneer's member agencies have better representation through Pioneer than they do through PG&E with a priority placed on issues important to our region.

- Local Jobs and Power Supply Resources – By strengthening Pioneer, it allows the pursuit of local power supply projects, including biomass, that creates good wage jobs in the local economy, mitigates wildfire risk, and diversifies Pioneer's power supply portfolio to keep power supply costs stable.

Pioneer Community Energy Staff will be available at the meeting to answer any questions you may have.

CEQA Requirements

The adoption of the Resolution does not constitute a project and is therefore exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Section 15378(b)(4) and (5).

Financial and/or Policy Implications

There are no financial impacts associated with the recommended action.

Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Pioneer JPA Amendment #5

TOWN OF LOOMIS

RESOLUTION 22-XX

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO THE AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR PIONEER COMMUNITY ENERGY EXPANDING PIONEER COMMUNITY ENERGY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS, the Sierra Valley Energy Authority was established on September 9, 2015, between the County of Placer and the City of Colfax; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Valley Energy Authority was originally created for the purpose of providing a financing conduit and program expansion platform for the mPOWER Program; and

WHEREAS, counties and cities have the power under California law to aggregate electric load, to purchase and supply electricity for themselves and customers within their jurisdictions, by providing a Community Choice Aggregation Program, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Sections 331.1 and 366.2; and

WHEREAS, the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Power Agreement for the Sierra Valley Energy Authority (the “Amended and Restated JPA”) became effective on February 22, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Amended and Restated JPA allowed for the establishment of a Community Choice Aggregation Program (the “CCA”) within the jurisdictions of the Voting Members and authorized the Cities of Auburn, Lincoln, Rocklin, and the Town of Loomis to become Voting Members; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2017, the Governing Board of the Sierra Valley Energy Authority took action to rename and brand Sierra Valley Energy Authority as Pioneer Community Energy (“Pioneer”); and

WHEREAS, on [DATE], 2020, the Town Council approved Resolution No. _____ approving Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated JPA to provide for El Dorado County and the City of Placerville to become Voting Members under the Amended and Restated JPA for Pioneer Community Energy; and

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2020, the Governing Board of Pioneer Community Energy approved Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated JPA, which authorized the County of El Dorado and the City of Placerville to become Voting Members; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of Pioneer Community Energy has previously approved four amendments to the Amended and Restated JPA; and

WHEREAS, the City of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley have expressed a desire to join Pioneer for the purpose of participating in Pioneer’s Community Choice Aggregation Program (“CCA Program”); and

WHEREAS, an impact assessment was performed to analyze the feasibility of expanding Pioneer’s CCA Program service territory into PG&E’s service area in Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley, the results of which showed such an expansion to be beneficial to both existing Pioneer ratepayers, and potential ratepayers in Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley; and

WHEREAS, to these ends, the Town Council of Loomis desires to approve the execution of Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated JPA to provide for the City of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley to become Voting Members under the Amended and Restated JPA for Pioneer Community Energy.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Loomis, hereby finds, declares, and resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. This Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Pioneer Community Energy provides for admission of the City of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley as Voting Members.
3. The Town Council hereby approves Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for Pioneer Community Energy under the Joint Powers Law, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for Pioneer Community Energy in the name and on behalf of the Town.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of October 2022. I, Carol Parker, Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Loomis, Hereby Certify the foregoing resolution was introduced and passed at a regular meeting of the Loomis Town Council by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Jenny Knisley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carol Parker, Deputy Town Clerk

AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO THE AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR PIONEER COMMUNITY ENERGY

THIS AMENDMENT (hereafter "Amendment") amends the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (hereafter "Amended and Restated JPA") with the effective date of February 22, 2017 which was by and between the COUNTY OF PLACER, the CITY OF AUBURN, the CITY OF COLFAX, the CITY OF LINCOLN, the TOWN OF LOOMIS, and the CITY OF ROCKLIN, and as executed pursuant to Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated JPA by the COUNTY OF EL DORADO and the CITY OF PLACERVILLE all public entities of the State of California. By this Amendment the City of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley (collectively, the "New Voting Members") become signatories to the Amended and Restated JPA.

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2015 the COUNTY OF PLACER and the CITY OF COLFAX entered into the original Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the purpose of establishing the Sierra Valley Energy Authority as a joint powers authority under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Government Code Section 6500, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Amended and Restated JPA became effective on February 22, 2017 and authorized the Cities of Auburn, Lincoln, Rocklin, and the Town of Loomis to become Voting Members of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement and established a Community Choice Aggregation Program within the jurisdictions of the Voting Members; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2017-3 of the Sierra Valley Energy Authority approved a name change from Sierra Valley Energy Authority to Pioneer Community Energy, as it is known today; and

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated JPA, which was approved by the Governing Board on December 27, 2020 and became effective March 9, 2021, authorized the County of El Dorado and the City of Placerville to become Voting Members; and

WHEREAS, the Voting Members wish to amend the Amended and Restated JPA a fifth time to add the City of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley as Voting Members.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT THE FOLLOWING CHANGES AND ADDITIONS ARE HEREBY MADE IN THE AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT:

1. Section 5.A shall be replaced by the following:

Section 5. Governance and Internal Organization

- A. Governing Board. The governing body of the Authority shall consist of up to a twelve (12) person Board, consisting of two (2) members of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, and one (1) member each appointed by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, the Cities of Auburn, Colfax, Grass Valley, Rocklin, Lincoln, Nevada City, Placerville and the Town of Loomis that becomes a signatory to this Agreement ("Board Member").

The Board of Supervisors from Placer County, the Board of Supervisors from El Dorado County, and the City/Town Councils set out above shall respectfully appoint such member(s) and not less than one alternate member. The term of office of each Board Member and respective alternate may be terminated at any time by the appointing Board of Supervisors or City/Town Council. The designated alternate shall have authority to attend, participate, and vote at any meeting of the Board or committee whenever the regular member, for whom they are designated to act as an alternate, is absent from the meeting.

2. Effective Date. This Amendment shall take effect and become operative after the Cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City each approve and sign the Amendment and after the CPUC certifies the Implementation Plan filed by Pioneer to include the Cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City.
3. Counterparts. This Amendment may be executed in counterparts and be as valid and binding as if each Member signed the same copy. A faxed or scanned copy of the executed signature page shall be sufficient to cause the terms of this Amendment to become fully operative. The effective date of this Amendment shall be the date it is approved by the Pioneer Board.
4. Except as specifically amended above, all other provisions of the Amended and Restated JPA shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Voting Members have executed this Amendment No. 5 to the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for Pioneer Community Energy.

EXECUTED ON

COUNTY OF EL DORADO, a political
subdivision

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

COUNTY OF PLACER, a political
subdivision

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF AUBURN, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF COLFAX, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF LINCOLN, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF NEVADA CITY, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF PLACERVILLE, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

CITY OF ROCKLIN, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, City Council

ATTEST:

SIGNATURES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EXECUTED ON

TOWN OF LOOMIS, a Municipal Corporation

And approved as to form _____

By _____
Mayor, Town Council

ATTEST:
