



# Supporting Clean Energy Opportunities in Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley of California

**DOCKET**

**09-IEP-1N**

DATE AUG 11 2009

RECD SEP 08 2009

Paul Johnson, Executive Director  
San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization

August 11, 2009

For more information: [pkjohnson49@comcast.net](mailto:pkjohnson49@comcast.net)

# The San Joaquin Valley

- 8 County Region with population of 3.5 million from San Joaquin County through Kern County
- Significant Ag base
- Huge economic and environmental challenges
- Tremendous energy assets
- CA Partnership for San Joaquin Valley set up to improve quality of life



# Clean Energy Assets in Valley

- Solar
- Biomass/bioenergy
- Wind
- Energy efficiency investments from utilities, USDOE, state and Air District



# Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley

- Seven of ten top agriculture counties in US are in Valley. Fresno Co. Ranked #1 and Tulare County #2
- If SJV were a state, it would lead the nation in farm production, produce \$20 billion in sales.
- SJV accounts for 34% on US fruit tree/nut/berry sales and 12% of US vegetable/melon/potato/sweet potato sales – 25% of combined sales.



# Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley

## (continued)

- Significant dairy concentrations – 2 million cows
- HUGE air quality, land use and water challenges



# Approach

- Establish the SJVCEO as regional clean energy infrastructure
- Partner with utilities, Feds, state and Air District
- Join the National 25 x 25 Initiative



# Major Accomplishments of SJVCEO

- Established September 2007
- Bimonthly board meetings with a large and diverse board
- Successful start up focused on sustainable communities, renewables development, and green workforce development.
- Incorporated as a 501c3
- On the road to Financial Self-Sustainability



# SJVCEO Accomplishments

## Partnerships and Projects



### Tulare County, California

- **Valley Innovative Energy Watch (VIEW) Partnership.**
  - Signed a contract with Southern California Edison Company to serve as the lead implementing organization for a local government partnership program to provide energy efficiency services to Jurisdictions in Tulare County for the period of 2009-2011.

### Visalia, California

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions.**
  - Team effort with the City of Visalia to develop a greenhouse gas emissions baseline for the City.
- **City Memorandum of Understanding.**
  - Memorandum of understanding to help support the City's efforts to increase levels of clean energy investments and to create a model city program.

### Arvin, California

- **Greening Arvin.**
  - Awarded Valley CAN grant in the amount of \$46,000 to help the city of Arvin develop and implement clean energy policies and projects.
  - Implemented the REACON business model, in partnership with the Stockton Chamber of Commerce, to identify resource saving opportunities for local businesses.

### Fresno, California

- **Southeast Growth Area (SEGA).**
  - Provided technical advice and input to develop green energy features for the planned development of SEGA
  - Participated in a planning meeting held on June 10, 2008, at the Fresno Convention Center

### Nationwide

- **National 25 by '25 Initiative.**
  - Signed Memorandum of understanding for region to serve as a demonstration region for National renewables initiative.



# SJVCEO Accomplishment

## Conferences and Campaigns

- **Farming Clean Energy Conference**, November 5-6, 2008, Tulare, CA. Explored the opportunities for developing projects and advocating regulatory changes and policies to significantly increase clean energy use in the agriculture sector. A second conference is being planned for early December 2009.



# Clean Energy Needs in the SJV Agriculture Sector

*A plan for a predictable future and a path to get there*

Areas of Support for the CEC/SJVCEO/Others

- **Conduct Research**
  - Statewide data on ag energy use by sector
  - CE potential for meeting state goals
  - Biogas quality to meet needs for pipeline injection
  - New ag sector clean energy opportunities and carbon market
- **Develop infrastructure**
  - Provide state support for regional infrastructure
  - Regional infrastructure focuses on feedstock management, service delivery, Focus on specific technologies or geographic areas



# Clean Energy Needs in the SJV Agriculture Sector

*A plan for a predictable future and a path to get there*

Areas of Support for the CEC/SJVCEO/Others

- **Establish info hubs**
  - Could include case studies/best practices, peer matches, blogs, resource info legislation updates.
- **Provide technical assistance**
  - For application support .
- **Expand efforts to streamline regulatory permitting .**
  - Focus on specific technologies or geographic areas
- **Support Green Workforce Development**
  - By linking providers with workforce development organizations and support for training



# QUESTIONS ??

