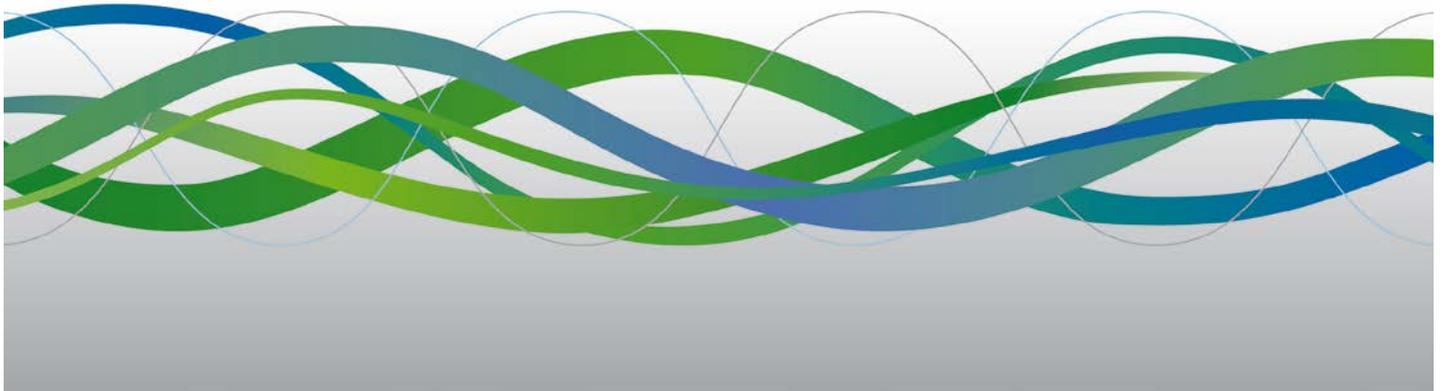


# Report

## Evaluability Assessment of the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative and PG&E's Green Communities Climate Action Planning Programs

Oakland, January 28, 2014





**Evaluability Assessment of the Statewide  
Energy Efficiency Collaborative and PG&E's  
Green Communities Climate Action Planning  
Programs**

Oakland, January 28, 2014

Author(s) DNV KEMA Energy and Sustainability

On behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission





## CONTENTS

1	Executive Summary .....	7
1.1	Introduction.....	7
1.2	Methodology.....	8
1.3	Key Findings.....	8
1.3.1	Barriers.....	8
1.3.2	Local Government Inventory/Climate Action Plan Activity Profile.....	9
1.4	Conclusions.....	10
2	Introduction.....	11
2.1	Background.....	11
2.2	Program Goals and Objectives .....	12
2.3	Research Methodology .....	13
3	Program Descriptions and Assessment .....	15
3.1	IOU Program Support for CAPs.....	15
3.2	PG&E Green Communities .....	16
3.2.1	Marketing and Outreach.....	17
3.2.2	Effectiveness of Outreach .....	18
3.2.3	Tools and Resources .....	18
3.3	SEEC Program.....	19
3.3.1	SEEC/ICLEI.....	19
3.3.2	Delivery Channels and Outreach .....	19
3.3.3	Tools and Resources .....	20
3.4	Program Tracking Data.....	22
3.4.1	Internal Metrics .....	22
3.4.2	Program Participant Feedback .....	24
3.5	Program Assessment Summary .....	25
4	Local Government Survey .....	27
4.1	Methodology.....	27
4.1.1	Sample.....	27
4.1.2	Survey Design.....	27
4.2	Greenhouse Gas Inventory.....	28
4.2.1	Status.....	28
4.2.2	Partners.....	28



4.2.3	Development Process.....	30
4.2.4	Barriers.....	31
4.3	Climate Action Plan.....	32
4.3.1	Status.....	32
4.3.2	Reasons for Developing a CAP.....	33
4.3.3	Measures .....	34
4.3.4	Projects.....	35
4.4	Tools & Resources.....	39
4.4.1	Awareness .....	39
4.4.2	Satisfaction.....	40
4.5	Sources of Best Practices Information.....	43
4.6	Persistence .....	43
4.7	Summary of Findings .....	44
5	Evaluability Assessment .....	46
5.1	Introduction.....	46
5.2	Data Review.....	46
5.2.1	Data Response Review.....	46
5.2.2	CAP Readiness.....	52
5.2.3	CAP Content Review .....	56
5.3	Conclusions.....	60
5.4	Recommendations.....	61
6	Appendix.....	63
6.1	LIST OF ACRONYMS .....	64
6.3	Other SEEC Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) .....	66
6.3.1	Institute for Local Government (ILG).....	66
6.3.2	Local Government Commission (LGC).....	67
6.4	IOU Comments and Response .....	68
6.5	LG Survey.....	69



## LIST OF EXHIBITS

Table 1: In-depth Interview Composition .....	13
Table 2: Local Government Web Survey Composition by IOU .....	14
Table 3: Desktop Research on Local Government CAP activity by IOU .....	14
Table 4: Training Modules provided by ICLEI.....	20
Table 5: SEEC tools, templates, and guidance documents .....	21
Table 6: GHG Inventory Status of Local Governments .....	28
Table 7: Partners collaborated with to develop GHG inventories/CAPs .....	29
Table 8: GHG Inventory development process adopted by Local Governments.....	30
Table 9: Local Government projects considered/committed to in CAP to mitigate GHG emissions .....	37
Table 10: Awareness of tools and resources by status of GHG inventory .....	39
Table 11: Tools and resources mentioned by status of GHG inventory.....	40
Table 12: Tools and resources mentioned by status of CAP.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Table 13: Local Government Satisfaction with IOUs for GHG/Cap development.....	41
Table 14: Local Government Satisfaction with SEEC for GHG/CAP development .....	41
Table 15: Local Government Satisfaction with ICLEI for GHG/CAP development.....	41
Table 16: Anticipated CAP Completion Year.....	52
Table 17: Comparison of Survey Responses to IOU Tracking on CAP Status.....	54
Figure 1: Local Government responses to perceived barriers to conducting a GHG inventory.....	32
Figure 2: Local Government Status of CAP activity.....	33
Figure 3: Local Government Impetus for CAP development.....	33
Figure 4: Measures included by Local Governments in CAPs .....	35
Figure 5: Satisfaction with SEEC - mapped by Local Governments ratings .....	42
Figure 6: Local Government cited best practices in promoting GHG/CAP activity.....	43
Figure 1: PG&E Climate Action Planning Activity Tracking Sheet.....	47
Figure 2: SCE Climate Action Planning Activities Tracking Sheet.....	50





## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an evaluability assessment and as such summarizes the findings of the research conducted by DNV KEMA to assess the readiness for measuring the impacts of climate action planning support provided by Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) Green Communities (GC) program and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) as part of the Non Resource Impact Evaluation Research (WO69) on behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Findings from this research are not intended to provide an energy impact assessment of the above mentioned programs. To aid in understanding, a list of acronyms has been included as an appendix to this report.

### 1.1 Introduction

The SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and California's four investor-owned utilities (IOUs) which provides technical assistance and support to cities and counties to help them reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and save energy by, among other activities, developing Climate Action Plans (CAPs). California's investor-owned utilities (IOUs) are supporting objectives of the CA Strategic Plan to support local governments achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions in response to AB32. The IOUs are directing funds to SEEC to support GHG reductions and energy action planning. The IOUs also provide support for GHG reductions via assistance with developing GHG inventories (or at the minimum, providing the billing data needed to support developing GHG inventories). In addition to supporting SEEC, PG&E also implements the Green Communities program to provide additional resources in support of GHG reductions.

While we recognize that both SEEC and the Green Communities (GC) program provide a broad range of resources and services to support local government energy action planning; the scope of study is to assess the specific activities that could lead to measurable energy savings attributable to IOU funding. The study focuses primarily on assessing the GHG inventories and climate action planning support since these activities involve documenting actions that are more likely to produce measurable results that could be attributable to the program. The objective is to determine whether the program, as currently implemented, will support a rigorous impact evaluation. To accomplish this we must:

1. identify what information/resources implementers are tracking in the form of goal setting, accomplishment tracking, and other metrics available that may inform an evaluation study design;
2. identify and/or recommend a process for documenting activities leading to energy savings achieved from Climate Action Plans (CAPs)
3. determine the feasibility and/or methodology for validating energy savings from Climate Action Plans.

While the assessment does provide feedback from the program implementers and targeted audience, it is not intended to provide a full review of the implementation process (e.g., process evaluation).

## **1.2 Methodology**

The objective of the research conducted by DNV KEMA is to determine the state of program implementation and whether adequate resources and data are available to support future impact evaluations once entities move forward with CAPs. The work included assessing the quality of the program data collected, interviewing internal and external program managers, and interviewing staffs of NGOs and local governments who have interacted with the program. This study also includes an online survey with local government representatives regarding their status towards completing and implementing CAPs. We also conducted secondary research to complement the survey results and to assess the data available to support impact evaluations in the future.

## **1.3 Key Findings**

SEEC and PG&E's GC program both strive to promote energy efficiency by supporting local government climate action planning, among other activities. SEEC provides resources such as workshops, peer-to-peer networking opportunities, technical assistance, a recognition program, best practices activities, and technical tools that support local government energy efficiency activities, efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and preparing Climate Action Plans. The GC program leverages tools and resources such as those provided by SEEC to directly support the development of GHG Inventories and CAPs, in addition to other activities such as fluorescent lamp recycling that are outside of the scope of this Assessment. According to feedback from the IOUs and SEEC program staff, key highlights of the SEEC Program in 2010-12 include; three well-attended Statewide Energy Efficiency Best Practices Forums, approximately fifty cities and counties enrolling in the Beacon Award program, a new suite of online technical tools for climate planning, and multiple webinars and trainings. Key highlights of the GC Program include supporting the development of 231 GHG inventories and 57 climate action plans related to energy, and making energy consumption data available to local government customers.

### **1.3.1 Barriers**

Barriers towards completing and implementing CAPs mentioned in interviews with the IOUs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and in local governments' survey responses include: lack of knowledge, lack of staff time to attend training/availability of existing resources, and reduced staffing levels due to furloughs, plus others. The underlying theme was that program funding mitigates these problems significantly. While several local governments noted that they were "quite far down the path" of



developing and implementing their CAPs, most admitted that CAP activities would halt without IOU funding for the SEEC and PG&E's GC programs.

### **1.3.2 Local Government Inventory/Climate Action Plan Activity Profile**

Our research with local governments uncovered a spectrum of GHG inventory/CAP activity that ranged from early GHG assessments to implementing CAPs. Almost 80% of the local government survey respondents indicate that they have developed a baseline GHG inventory or developed and updated their GHG inventory. Thirty-four percent (34%) of all respondents indicated that they have adopted or have begun implementing their CAP. AB32 compliance and energy efficiency were the two most common reasons selected by over 90% of respondents as the impetus for CAP development.

All of the local governments with CAPs (48 out of 76 respondents) reported including provisions to use energy efficiency specifically to reduce GHG emissions. Eighty-five percent (85%) of jurisdictions that mentioned energy efficiency are implementing Municipal energy efficiency projects; 56% are implementing residential and 41% are implementing non-residential projects. Fifty-five percent (55%) of local governments indicate awareness of the tools and resources available to assist them in their GHG/CAP activities. While over half the local governments indicate satisfaction with services provided by the NGOs, some respondents indicate dissatisfaction with the IOUs and specifically mentioned accessing data from the IOUs to develop or update their GHG inventories and developing their CAPs as cumbersome. Nearly a third of those surveyed (32%) indicate that acquiring/utilizing the data required to develop an inventory was a barrier and 16% of local governments indicated that uncertainty on methodology was a barrier.

The NGOs do not actively track who has completed a CAP; they primarily track visits to websites, webinar participants, forum attendees, tools developed, etc. Since the SEEC and GC programs are non-resource programs, the IOUs do not identify or track energy efficiency goals per CAP or individual energy efficiency projects included in the CAPs. They also do not estimate the energy savings coming from the CAPs that may be attributable to their efforts. PG&E and SCE tracking sheets received in response to data requests only note the CAPs for the jurisdictions they are actively engaged in supporting. Comparisons of the IOU tracking sheets on CAP activity to the survey responses and to the actual CAP plans for local governments revealed that the IOUs are missing crucial information that could indicate how far along the jurisdictions are with developing/adopting their CAPs; plus the IOUs are inconsistent with the survey on whether a CAP has been adopted for some local governments.

## 1.4 Conclusions

Overall, the IOUs and their NGO partners did see success in reaching several milestones established for the SEEC and GC. These milestones include:

- Providing assistance by way of free tools, training, peer-to-peer forums for best practices sharing;
- Using program design elements such as webinars and free training to address financial barriers that impede GHG/CAP activity progress for several local governments; (i.e., several LGPs lack discretionary funds to support training LGP staff or for travel expenses for staff to attending classes)
- Building capacity in local governments' skill sets for sustainability planning that includes energy efficiency;
- Achieving extensive reach for the program with over 80% active participation in some IOU territories.

However, the overall implementation of the program does not provide the infrastructure or access to data to support impact evaluations at this time. The data gathered to date by IOUs and NGOs do not allow an accurate determination of whether the CAPs that are adopted and currently being implemented are at a stage of maturity with respect to their energy efficiency achievements to support evaluating energy savings from the SEEC or GC programs. It is also apparent that attempting to access these data from the LGPs and/or the multiple entities who may be involved in delivering multiple program strategies (per LGP) could present a significant barrier in terms of costs and time on behalf of the evaluator.

Given the scale of GHG reduction that the local governments are trying to achieve (i.e., delivering savings using multiple methods per community), it may be more productive to establish a process to prioritize local governments (possibly based on size of jurisdiction and the potential GHG reductions due to energy efficiency) and selectively choose which ones to evaluate versus trying to evaluate the SEEC or GC program as a whole.

Finally, this assessment is based on how the IOUs are currently implementing the SEEC/GC programs. At this time, as with most nonresource programs, there was no driver to establish the more rigorous tracking requirements usually called for to support an impact evaluation since the program administrators did not plan to claim energy savings. However, at some point, the IOUs do believe these programs will produce some energy savings via the energy plans within the CAPs. It is the IOU's expectation that substantial savings will be attributable through existing programs and thus should be counted in these original programs. The impact evaluation will most likely reveal attribution along with smaller portion of savings occurring outside of the existing programs. However, given the pace of CAP adoption, this will occur, if at all, over several years.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Background

In 2006, the CA legislature passed Assembly Bill 32: Global Warming Solutions Act (AB32) which set the 2020 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction into law. A specific requirement of AB32 was to establish the statewide GHG emissions in 1990 as the emissions limit to be achieved by 2020. The state required the California Air Resources Board to develop a scoping plan that would describe the approach the state could take to achieve its GHG reduction goals. This scoping plan encourages local government entities to adopt GHG emissions reduction goals that are consistent with the state's GHG emissions reduction goals.

AB32 and other related legislation and policy create an environment that requires that energy efficiency efforts not just continue at current levels but scale up in order to achieve statewide targeted energy savings. In July 2008, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) redoubled its own energy savings efforts by establishing new targets for energy savings for the years 2012 through 2020 for its regulated utilities and adopted the "California Long Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan".<sup>1</sup>

The CPUC's strategic plan envisions that by 2020, California's local governments will be leaders in using energy efficiency to reduce energy use and global warming emissions both in their own facilities and throughout their communities. In addition to goals related to local building codes and leading by example with reduced energy footprints in municipal facilities, goals 4 and 5 (of 5 total goals) of the CPUC's strategic plan for local governments pertain directly to energy efficiency efforts and are as follows:

4. Local governments lead their communities with innovative programs for energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate change.
5. Local government energy efficiency expertise becomes widespread and typical.

A key component of the CPUC's strategic plan is to support the role local governments will play in helping to achieve state targets. SEEC and PG&E's GC program were developed by the IOUs to facilitate Local Governments achieving the goals listed above and to assist them with regulatory preparedness with aspects of climate legislation such as AB32 that would directly impact local governments.

---

<sup>1</sup> [California Long Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan: Achieving Maximum Energy Savings in California for 2009 and Beyond](#), California Public Utilities Commission, 2008

## 2.2 Program Goals and Objectives

California IOUs provide Climate Action Planning (CAP) assistance to local government entities to enable them to better understand and manage their municipal and community-wide energy usage and emissions. The IOUs, through the SEEC Program and individual IOU programs such as PG&E's GC program, provide tools and training to support developing and implementing climate action plans that include energy efficiency programs. These programs are aimed at helping cities and counties incorporate energy efficiency in their efforts to address GHG reductions and these programs support current and long-range state policy as it relates to AB32.

The IOUs' primary vehicle for delivering CAP resources and tools statewide is the SEEC that is comprised of the state's four IOUs (PG&E, SCE, SCG, and SDG&E), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the Institute for Local Government (ILG) and the Local Government Commission (LGC) and the Statewide Best Practice Coordinator, Pat Stoner. This coordination group provides statewide program components that include training, workshops, technical assistance, a recognition program, and other means to allow local governments to share best practices associated with energy management.

Additionally, PG&E offers their Green Communities program (GC) which is intended to provide support to local governments and communities specifically in PG&E territory in pursuing their GHG emission reduction goals. GC supports the development of Climate Action Plans by directly supporting the development of GHG inventories and climate action plans through deliverable-driven contracts with local government and regional partners. According to PG&E, local government and regional partners initiated a total of 231 GHG inventories and 57 climate action plans with the support of the GC program. The GC program also included a group of dedicated Community Energy Managers who are trained in climate action planning. Some of the local government partners and regional implementers of GC include the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), the Great Valley Center (GVC), the Sierra Business Council (SBC), and ICLEI. These entities provide GHG inventory and climate action plan development assistance and resources to foster benchmarking.

Both the SEEC and GC activities correspond to the following strategies identified to support goals 4 and 5 for local governments in the CPUC's strategic plan<sup>2</sup>:

- 4-2: Use local governments' general plan to promote energy efficiency, sustainability and climate change.

---

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, page 8



- 4-3: Provide statewide liaison to assist local governments in energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate change
- 5-3: Establish a statewide effort to facilitate peer-to-peer learning, such as a “local champions” program or a governor’s invitation-only local government leaders’ summit.
- 5-4: Create a statewide technical assistance program for local governments, including peer-to-peer expertise exchange.

### 2.3 Research Methodology

The objective of this research is to determine the state of program implementation and to lay the groundwork to ensure adequate resources and data are available to support future impact evaluations once entities move forward with CAPs. The work included reviewing program materials and supporting background information, assessing the quality of data collected, interviewing internal and external program managers, and interviewing staff of NGOs and local governments who have interacted with the program.

**Table 1: In-depth Interview Composition<sup>3</sup>**

Title	Affiliation	Number of Interviews
Community Energy Managers	PG&E	2
Program Managers	PG&E	2
Lead Data Developer	PG&E	1
Local Government Partnerships Lead	SCE	1
Program Officer & Deputy Executive Director	ICLEI	1
Program Director	ILG	1
Associate Director & Program Associate	LGC	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8</b>

<sup>3</sup> The team conducted interviews with SDG&E/SCG program team via an earlier assessment for Non-resource programs; specifically WET and Green Communities. Information provided to the team at that time indicated that SDG&E/SCG had not allocated any specific funding to support CAP development outside of the funding provided to support the SEEC NGOs per the EEGA budget sheet. Whereas PG&E and SCE did provide additional support via PG&E’s GC and SCE’s Energy Leaders Strategic Plan support. As such, the team did not include SDG&E/SCG in subsequent data requests or in-depth interviews as with the other IOUs given we would gather information directly from the NGOs on how they use IOU funding. The team did later learned that SDG&E/SCG also provided CAP support to local government partners via embedded partnership funds and included the three entities identified in our reporting on activity in Chapter Four.



This study also includes an online survey with local government representatives as summarized in Table 2. The results of this survey are discussed in detail in the following chapter.

**Table 2: Local Government Web Survey Composition by IOU**

<b>IOUs</b>	<b>Number of Local Government Web Surveys</b>
<b>PG&amp;E</b>	44
<b>SCE/Sempra</b>	26
<b>SDGE</b>	3
<b>SMUD</b>	1
<b>Other</b>	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	76

As follow-up to the survey results, the team also conducted desktop research to assess the data available to support potential non-resource impact evaluation. Table 3 notes the number of local governments with CAPs per utility area. Our research involved reviewing their CAPs and EAP to determine the type of information that is tracked consistently among the local governments, and whether such information could possibly support an impact evaluation.

**Table 3: Desktop Research on Local Government CAP activity by IOU<sup>4</sup>**

<b>IOUs</b>	<b>Number of Local Government CAPs researched</b>
<b>PG&amp;E</b>	17
<b>SCE/Sempra</b>	5
<b>SDGE</b>	3
<b>SMUD</b>	1
<b>Other</b>	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	27

---

<sup>4</sup> Local governments researched in Table 3 were identified based on survey responses indicating they had conducted a GHG inventory and had developed a CAP.

### 3 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND ASSESSMENT

This Chapter summarizes information and responses from document review and in-depth interviews with IOU program staff<sup>5</sup> and with staff from the NGOs that participate in SEEC. The goal of the review and interviews was to document the program description, implementation and data/metrics infrastructure available that could potentially inform an impact evaluation. This Chapter first starts with an overview of the support the IOUs provide for developing CAPs via their existing local government partnerships (LGP) and funding support for SEEC. Next, we characterize PG&E's Green Communities program and then SEEC, specifically focusing on ICLEI due to its role in training and assisting with developing GHG inventories and Climate Action Plans<sup>6</sup>.

#### 3.1 IOU Program Support for CAPs

Each of the utilities is responsible for managing one of the four SEEC contracts:

- PG&E manages the contract with ICLEI
- SCE manages the contract with ILG
- SDG&E manages the contract with LGC and the contract with the Local Government Statewide Energy Efficiency Best Practices Coordinator, Patrick Stoner

In addition to funding for SEEC, SCE provides funding to support CAP activities in two ways; solicitation funding and embedded funding (SCG also provides embedded funding to support partnerships within the dual-IOU territory). Embedded funding is where the local government partnerships (LGP) and SCE/SCG agree to allocate a specified amount of funds from the LGP's program budget to conduct one or more specific Strategic Plan Menu option(s). Climate planning activities are included as an option they may select. The LGP may also gain access to funds for CAP activities through SCE's competitive solicitation process that addresses options from the Strategic Plan Menu, including climate planning options. By choosing the CAP option puts the local governments on the path to move up the energy leader model and progress in tier advancement within SCE Partnerships

PG&E executed a separate agreement with ICLEI on behalf of their regional partners to support technical assistance for developing GHG inventories and CAPs. (PG&E states that this funding supported developing two of the 57 CAPs initiated in the 2010-12 cycle under Green Communities.) Prior to developing the consolidated contract, each regional partner would subcontract individually with ICLEI.

---

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, page 10

<sup>6</sup> More details on the remaining NGOs, ILC and LCG can be found in the Appendix



PG&E decided this process was inefficient because it required ICLEI to issue many different invoices for similar work and required already overburdened partners to handle additional administrative work. On the ground it worked the same; ICLEI still worked directly with the implementer, but they would invoice PG&E directly. PG&E claims that costs were cut in half after they negotiated a consolidated contract with ICLEI.

SCE and SDG&E/SoCal Gas promote SEEC services through their existing local government partnership structure where the utility local government program managers and account staff refer local governments who are interested in developing GHG inventories and energy-based CAPs directly to the appropriate SEEC service. They also make recommendations for the recognition program (Beacon Award). The IOUs will also promote special SEEC events such as annual meetings or special webinars, peer-to-peer networking, etc. as requested by the SEEC members.

The four statewide IOUs work together to monitor and track the progress of each of the NGO's activities in SEEC. The IOUs provide direction and support to SEEC to further CAP tool development, recognition program, best practice and peer to peer sharing. They support local governments by providing them with electric consumption data, funding, guidance and review of interim deliverables and final CAPs, resources for sharing lessons learned and networking with local governments. They also participate with Climate Registry in the Cool Planet<sup>7</sup> program to support CAP development and GHG verification. The IOUs receive progress reports from each NGO documenting activities to ensure the NGOs are working towards achieving SEEC's goals.

### 3.2 PG&E Green Communities

Up until 2012, PG&E had a dedicated group of GC Program managers who supported the GC program exclusively. PG&E currently supports the GC program through the local government program managers and the Community Energy Managers. We describe their roles below.

- 1) PG&E's **Local Government Program Managers** work with their local governments who have contracts with PG&E to implement energy efficiency programs. Some of the contracts may include developing CAPs.

---

<sup>7</sup> The Climate Registry administers an energy efficiency and climate change mitigation program called the Cool Planet Project with electric and gas utilities in select regions. The Cool Planet Project highlights the relationship between energy usage and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, providing utility company business customers assistance in measuring and managing their energy & carbon output. Participating business customers are provided Registry membership to capture the reductions made through energy efficiency into complete carbon footprint, while identifying new energy savings opportunities.



The local government program managers also perform this role for regional partners. Regional partners may include multiple entities such as cities, counties and government agencies operating under a jurisdictional umbrella (i.e., ABAG, AMBAG, etc.) The regional partners assist local governments in their jurisdiction with energy management in the following areas:

- Increasing energy efficiency of government-owned and operated facilities
- Providing a delivery channel for energy efficiency services to the community
- Leading the community in developing plans to create a more sustainable living environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, creating green jobs and increasing renewable energy options

PG&E provides incentives, tools and technical assistance that support these efforts.

- 2) PG&E's **Community Energy Managers**' (CEMs) role is to help the more advanced jurisdictions plan and execute their CAPs. They also advise PG&E account representatives who may work with larger customers in helping these customers establish CAPs. According to PG&E, the role of the CEM evolved due in response to the more progressive jurisdictions interest in partnering with a liaison to act as a guide to the complex network of utility data, funding, and training. These cities reached out to PG&E account representatives for assistance and PG&E funded the CEM role in response. The CEMs advise city staff and account representatives on matters of sustainability and CAPs. The CEMs work with the PG&E data team to provide communities with energy consumption information for customers in their jurisdictions. Their goal is to provide accurate, timely and consistent information to governments and key stakeholders so they can complete the CAP process from leadership buy-in through inventory, measurement, monitoring, policy and planning. Their role is to serve as the first contact for EE questions as they relate to CAPs. The CEMs comprehensively represent every square mile of PG&E territory. One CEM may be responsible for multiple regions that may not have much in common regarding budget, policy, EE issues, or geography.

### 3.2.1 Marketing and Outreach

PG&E's marketing methods to reach local government entities to encourage participation in CAP activities vary from using the account manager, community energy managers, attending conferences and webinars, maintaining a website and a list of available data reports, and using other organizations as partners to research, target, and recruit participants.

As account representatives are constantly in touch with the customers, they are able to facilitate the relationship. According to PG&E, the idea is for the account manager to be able to "whistle up" the community energy manager as subject matter experts who can answer questions from the local



governments in PG&E's service territory. PG&E aims to insert itself in the process early on so that the cities will include PG&E as an implementation partner.

PG&E also promote their program at conferences and webinars. The goal is to engage customers during these events to develop an understanding of their market segments in order to tailor marketing to these communities. PG&E also use marketing collateral such as brochures, tri-folds, and websites to support their outreach.

According to PG&E, using existing relationships is also a key channel for promoting the program. PG&E contracts with regional partners like the Sierra Business Council and the Contra Costa Climate Leadership Group with the explicit goal that these entities reach out to the cities and counties they represent to identify who needs assistance. These entities recruit participants in concert with the utility's account managers.

### **3.2.2 Effectiveness of Outreach**

According to PG&E, they are able to gain insight into the needs of cities and counties for CAP services by researching the entity's activity prior to conducting any outreach. They then use this research to target marketing efforts to entities at the lower level of maturity with respect to their CAP activity to yield better results. PG&E notes that in one case, a regional partner used analytics to determine what the customer had or had not done; primed with this information the account manager was able to make a better pitch to the local government and provide a road map with what actions to take in order to save energy. PG&E had a metric (or goal) to provide all cities and counties information to support their GHG activities and, according to PG&E, they achieved their goal.

### **3.2.3 Tools and Resources**

In addition to the tools made available via SEEC (discussed in detail below), PG&E also provides its local governments and partner organizations (using funds separate from their funds to support SEEC) with a web portal for submitting requests for energy consumption reports; the core input for GHG inventories. The Portal allows local governments to request advanced data reports that give insight into the energy consumption trends within their community and government facilities. According to PG&E, typically local governments would request data from a PG&E CEM, Account Representative, or Program Manager who would then request the data through the same web portal.

### **3.3 SEEC Program**

As noted earlier, the SEEC collaborative includes three NGOs: ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the Local Government Commission (LGC), and the Institute for Local Governments (ILG). LGC’s role is to provide education and access to resources to support local governments build capacity to produce CAPs. They facilitate sharing of best practices via a variety of venues, including webinars, forums, peer-to-peer opportunities, etc. ILG is the non-profit research arm for the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties. They support CAP development by issuing the Beacon Award to bring recognition to cities and counties who have demonstrated and measureable accomplishments towards reducing GHG. We provide a more detailed description of the activities and resources LGC and ILG provide for their role with SEEC in the Appendix Chapter.

#### **3.3.1 SEEC/ICLEI**

For the remainder of this section we focus mainly on the activities for ICLEI. We focus on ICLEI due to their direct involvement with assisting local governments in preparing GHGs and CAPs. ICLEI’s activities are more likely to lead to energy savings that could be attributable to their role with SEEC and PG&E. ICLEI provides training, tools, technical guides, and resources for conducting a GHG emissions inventory at the local operations level, at community scale, and then taking those findings and creating energy action plans and climate action plans. ICLEI’s role in 2010-2012 within SEEC was to create tools, technical resources and guidebooks, create and deliver training and webinars, both in the field and online, to local governments on GHG emission reductions and quantification, and provide one-on-one assistance. ICLEI provides GHG inventory software, and also provides guidance on data collection, forecasting and guide books and direct training. ICLEI has a similar role for PG&E’s GC program where they provide training and ad hoc assistance to the regional partners that have a contract with PG&E to deliver GHG services. However, the level of detail and the ability to provide one-on-one assistance under the GC program is much greater.

#### **3.3.2 Delivery Channels and Outreach**

For SEEC, ICLEI reaches out to local governments to attend trainings in addition to receiving outreach support from the other partners in SEEC. For instance: If ICLEI has an upcoming CAP training, flyers are sent to SEEC partners who then send it to their audience. ICLEI’s internal communications department also conducts active outreach around SEEC. ICLEI maintains a dedicated outreach effort to promote the SEEC tools, trainings and events via their website, [www.californiaseec.org](http://www.californiaseec.org) , and mailing list to promote trainings and events.



ICLEI notes that outreach in the beginning was challenging due to their lack of knowledge about the intended audience and the right channels for reaching them. ICLEI works directly with the utility partner in the region to get the utility’s input on areas where there is a need for ICLEI’s support. ICLEI and the utilities work together to promote trainings and other resources targeted to the right audience and to identify regions in need of training.

ICLEI is able to expand and strengthen its outreach due to the collaborative efforts of the NGOs working together to promote SEEC.

### 3.3.3 Tools and Resources

ICLEI provides training modules on the following topics which are complemented by the tools and resources provided under the larger SEEC umbrella.

**Table 4: Training Modules provided by ICLEI**

Module	Description
<p><b>1. Local Government Operations Inventories</b></p>	<p>Trainings provide local governments with an overview of the process of completing a government operations inventory, in accordance with the Local Government Operations Protocol (LGO Protocol).</p>
<p><b>2. Community-wide Inventories</b></p>	<p>Trainings give an overview of the process of completing a community-wide inventory, in accordance with the International Emissions Analysis Protocol (IEAP) and ICLEI’s draft community protocol framework.</p>
<p><b>3. Forecasting, Target-Setting and Climate Action Planning for Local Government Operations</b></p>	<p>Trainings give an overview of the process of completing a climate action plan for local government operations, building from state and national best practices.</p>
<p><b>4. Forecasting, Target-Setting and Climate Action Planning for Community-wide Emissions</b></p>	<p>Trainings give an overview of the process of completing a climate action plan for reducing community-wide emissions, building from state and national best practices.</p>
<p><b>5. Climate Action Planning — Focal Strategies</b></p>	<p>Trainings provide detailed information on discrete climate action plan strategies that are particularly timely, relevant, and useful for local governments. ICLEI has worked with SEEC partners to determine topics on both a statewide and regional basis through consultation with councils of government, major local jurisdictions, and investor-owned utilities.</p>



SEEC provides tools and resources such as inventory worksheets/manuals, webinars, conference calls, etc. for local governments to access in order to build skills in developing GHG Inventories and CAPs. The list below details the types of tools and resources, training courses, actions/resources for sharing best practices provided to local governments via SEEC and through individual members.

**Table 5: SEEC tools, templates, and guidance documents**

Category	Tool/Template/Training/Guidance Document
<b>1. Local Government Operations Inventories</b>	Greenhouse Gas Inventory Recorded Trainings
	Quick Start Guide for Conducting a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory
	Local Government Operations GHG Inventory Instructions, Part 1: Data Gathering and Part 2: Quality Control of the Master Data Workbook
	Local Government Operations GHG Inventory Master Data Workbook
<b>2. Community-wide Inventories</b>	SEEC Community Inventory Master Data Workbook
	Community GHG Inventory Instructions Part 1: Data Gathering
	Community GHG Inventory Instructions Part 2: Quality Control of the Master Data Workbook
	Community GHG Inventory Instructions Part 3: Community Inventory Tool Instructions Manual
	Community Inventory Scoping and Reporting Tool
	Community GHG Forecast Assistant
<b>3. Climate Action Planning</b>	Quick Start Guide for Climate Action Planning
	Climate Action Planning Technical Guide
	Climate Action Plan Template
	Sample Climate Action Plan
	Quick Start Guide for Setting A Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target
<b>4. Forecasting, Target-Setting and Climate Action Progress &amp; Management</b>	SEEC Climate and Energy Management Suite
	Forecast Assistant Documentation and Background
	Measuring and Reporting Progress in Reducing GHG Emissions Guide
	Climate Action Progress Report Template
<b>5. CAP Implementation</b>	City Planners' Energy Action Resource Guide: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Measures for New Development
	Energy Efficiency Implementation Resource Guide

### 3.4 Program Tracking Data

According to PG&E and SCE, they track the local governments they supplied with energy data reports necessary for climate action planning and/or energy action plans<sup>8</sup> and which local governments develop a GHG Inventory or Climate/Energy Action Plan with their funding support. SoCal Gas partners with SCE with offering shared Energy Leaders contracts that may include climate action planning from the menu of options, as such, any tracking for these entities covers both utilities. SDG&E also support their jurisdictions with CAP support and provide energy consumption data and financial support to Local Governments for climate planning. However, while SDG&E do follow the jurisdictions who are developing CAPs closely, they do not track any transactions (i.e., reports provided, CAP status) separately. SDG&E and SoCal Gas can monitor GHG/CAP status to a degree from reports provided by the NGOs on the status of activities for local governments within their territory and via the San Diego Foundation report on CAP progress in the region.<sup>9</sup>

The following provides more insights on what type of information and activity assessments PG&E, SCE, and the NGOs track.

#### 3.4.1 Internal Metrics

##### 3.4.1.1 PG&E Green Communities

PG&E keeps track of major CAP milestones achieved by local governments they fund through its GC program. This information comes from the quarterly and final progress reports required for all GC contracts. In addition, CEMs track up to 50 metrics and each CEM tracks progress differently. Energy efficiency is a goal, but since a project is touched by multiple parties, the goal does not include claiming credit for the amount of energy saved.

ICLEI's role for PG&E's GC program is narrower and primarily focuses on tools, trainings and ad hoc assistance. Under this component, ICLIE's priority is to determine if tools are user-friendly, if the trainings are effective, and to assess if the trainers are knowledgeable. While ICLEI's focus is to gather feedback on the effectiveness of the tools and training, PG&E is responsible for sending out post-program feedback surveys that collect information on the overall effectiveness of the program, in terms of whether local governments are being encouraged to pursue the next step in the CAP process.

---

<sup>8</sup> According to SCE, they also support local governments who are engage with only developing the energy action plan component of the more comprehensive Climate Action Plans.

<sup>9</sup> San Diego Foundation, "Climate Action Planning Progress in the San Diego Region" - <http://issuu.com/thesandiegofoundation/docs/climateactionplanning?e=5545791/1065411>.

PG&E notes that it is too early to tell if it will be possible to achieve the energy efficiency goals in the CAPs they supported in 2012 as only one local government has been through a public review process and the remaining 56 local government CAPs are still being vetted along with tying up loose ends before putting them through an approval process. Some internal metrics PG&E use to monitor progress include keeping track of the people/entities that register and access the Green Communities Data Portal, the number of different types of reports delivered and to whom, the number of GHG inventories developed with GC funding support, and the number of climate action plans funded in part or whole with GC funding support.

#### 3.4.1.2 SEEC

SEEC supplies quarterly reports from the NGOs to the IOUs that track LGP participation in SEEC activities such as; webinar participation, training attendance, tool users, and Beacon award participation. The following outlines the type of tracking maintained by each NGO:

- Under the SEEC collaborative, ICLEI provides feedback using website metrics from Google analytics, sign-in sheets that track attendance for in-person trainings, and feedback from evaluation forms. ICLEI also conducts limited outreach with local governments for informal anecdotal feedback.
- In addition to tracking attendee satisfaction, LGC's primary metric is tracking the number of participants who attend the webinars and who drop off before the end. LGC noted that participation in their annual conferences has increased every year, indicating effectiveness in raising interest. LGC regularly draw information from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research annual survey to see where local governments are making progress. The survey provides information on local government CAPs in terms of mitigation, and assesses the collaboration between utilities, LGC, and the larger SEEC program. Additional metrics include website counts and the extensive surveys sent out after all events. The surveys measure the effectiveness/value of the presentations and the participants, the extent to which participants increased their knowledge, feel more motivated to work on efforts and feel better equipped to discuss issues and programs covered. Anecdotal feedback is also collected.
- ILG notes that they have seen a rise in the number of Beacon program participants, with many more in the pipeline. ILG tracks webinar attendance and also uses website analytics such as site visits, page views, and number of downloads to track interest in the resources they provide. ILG notes that in 2010-12 they were building awareness of the program and now that Local Governments are aware of SEEC and Beacon, it is paying off for the partners.

### 3.4.2 Program Participant Feedback

#### 3.4.2.1 PG&E Green Communities

PG&E CEMs obtain feedback from their customers, both internal within PG&E and external, for any CAP/EE project they work on via annual surveys initiated by their supervisor. According to the survey results supplied by PG&E, on average, 95% of those surveyed are extremely satisfied with the timeliness, expertise, teamwork, quality of work, and the overall caliber of the CEMs. The only response that fell a fraction below the 95% was in response to the question on whether the CEM “contributes value” to the respondent doing their job.

According to PG&E, the jurisdictions that fall under the “Climate Leaders” description, that is entities that are very engaged in CAP activity, provide slightly lower ratings than the majority of entities who are engaged in this work for the first time. PG&E believes this could be explained by higher expectations among the more experienced jurisdictions, although this group does acknowledge that PG&E provides better and more actionable data than other utilities.

PG&E’s pre and post surveys for GHG inventory workshop programs indicate an increase in knowledge amongst jurisdictions post participation. PG&E also receive positive feedback in the form of emails from jurisdictions with positive statements regarding the data and other helpful information provided; such as what goes into the GHG equivalency coefficients for each KWh delivered by the utility.

#### 3.4.2.2 SEEC

According to SEEC, the feedback from the local governments is very positive. SEEC covers the entire state, however, to support their SEEC-related activities, ICLEI divides the state into 10 regions that together cover all of California. The variability by region is a continuum from entry-level governments that have done nothing in the realm of CAP, to local governments that are very advanced, especially in areas where there is an overlap with the GC program. According to the feedback ICLEI has received, the resources ICLEI provides the more advanced local governments through SEEC are perceived as entry-level and hence not as interesting. However, in regions that are entry-level, the feedback is very positive because the overview is comprehensive and easy to understand. It answers the questions simply and puts them on a path they can follow. This effect was especially evident once the program matured and the suite of ICLEI tools was fully developed.

SCE noted that the general feedback (anecdotal) they have received has been positive for all activities and that the solicited and embedded CAP/EAP funding has enabled local governments to address EE in their climate planning better than in the past. Local governments appreciate the networking and learning



opportunities facilitated by SCE under SEEC, as well as the support in furthering EE and the recognition for their work.

LGC conducts surveys after every local government partner meeting, conference and webinar. According to LGC, while the majority of participants/respondents value the convenience of the webinar, the statewide energy efficiency best practices forum, which enables local governments to come together and hear from local governments from across the state, gets the highest ratings. Participants appreciate being able “to get out of the weeds and see the forest – get inspiration about what folks are doing. A lot of the time it’s just plowing through work, not being able to see what’s going on outside of your county or city”. Anecdotal feedback received by ILG on the Beacon program is that local governments appreciate hearing about what their peers are doing at the local level in terms of EE/sustainability. The statewide recognition provided by the program highlights the activities undertaken by several cities and counties, some not typically recognized in the press, and this provides encouragement for them to move further ahead in their EE/sustainability activities

### **3.5 Program Assessment Summary**

Through the various agencies/NGOs the IOUs brought together under SEEC, resources such as technical assistance, peer-to-peer best practices sharing through webinars, conferences, in-person meetings, and other tools were provided to support training local governments in developing GHG inventories and CAPs. A key outcome of these resources was to develop capacity in local governments’ skill sets for sustainability planning that include energy efficiency. This would meet the strategic plan goal of “local government energy efficiency expertise becomes widespread and typical.” Our interviews with NGOs and the utility managers indicated positive progression towards this goal as agencies with little or no knowledge or interest in climate planning have now emerged as energy experts savvy with GHG protocols.

Our PG&E interviewee noted that counties like Solano, Santa Clara, and San Luis Obispo were able to leverage IOU dollars from this program with equal dollars from state agencies or their own general funds to address transportation, waste, and water planning. The reach of this program is significant, with PG&E noting that over 80% of local governments in their territory have actively downloaded energy consumption and energy-related carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) data from their Green Communities Data Portal. About 50% of local governments have received more in-depth, insight-related reports about their community-wide and municipal energy usage.

Several barriers were identified in the in-depth interviews conducted with program implementers:



- Some local governments needing assistance are unable to hire outside consultants to help with developing GHG inventories and CAP activities due to lack of funding. The program tries to surmount this barrier in part by offering access to free training, tools and webinars for sharing best practices.
- Lack of funding is also a key barrier to initiate a CAP and in several cases, it is also a barrier to continue the CAP adoption process. While the regional partners have managed to leverage funding from other sources via RFPs/grants with the funding from the IOU programs this may not be enough to help sustain their efforts. Some of the barriers mentioned due to lack of funding include:
  - Jurisdictions with small planning departments might not be able to stay as engaged and develop a work product of comparable quality in the absence of funding assistance from the IOUs.
  - Some jurisdictions do not have the budget that will allow for traveling to some of the in-person meetings or forums.
  - Jurisdictions are also impacted by thinning staff and furloughs. As such, sending staff to participate in forums and trainings is no longer an option due other pressing obligations
- Being a member of SEEC can sometimes create barriers. Specifically, LGC has found it challenging when there are so many parties involved to move as quickly as they would like because of the number of players involved. While the LGC has one primary utility manager that they work directly with, SDG&E, they have to get everything signed off by the other three IOUs as well. The benefits of collaboration, however, far outweigh the barriers that sometimes exist.
- Due to regulation and privacy concerns, the IOUs may not be able to share certain data deemed useful by local governments for their projects, frustrating their efforts at sustainability planning. PG&E estimates that about 10% of its requests for local governments fall under this category.

## 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURVEY

### 4.1 Methodology

DNV KEMA conducted a web survey among local governments in order to explore local government climate action and GHG inventory activities. The survey was conducted online April 17 through May 14, 2013, using the online software, surveymonkey.com. The survey probed local governments on their level of engagement and the maturity of their GHG and CAP activities, and their experience using the resources provided under the SEEC program and working with the IOUs and the member non-profit organizations.

#### 4.1.1 Sample

Over 400 city planners and consultants were emailed a link to the survey with instructions to complete the survey by April 26, 2013. In order to ensure that our sample was comprehensive and adequate, we obtained contact information from a variety of sources. The primary sources for contact information were data request responses from PG&E and SCE. We also used a document titled “California Jurisdictions Addressing Climate Change”<sup>10</sup> prepared by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research to obtain contacts. Additionally, we found some contacts through web search.

To encourage participation, respondents who completed the survey were entered into a drawing for 150 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e of carbon offsets purchased from TerraPass. While the survey had 83 respondents in total, only 76 of these respondents completed the survey.

#### 4.1.2 Survey Design

The focus of the surveys was to learn about how the program has supported the CAP process in participating jurisdictions, the status of their CAP and GHG inventory activities, and satisfaction with the resources made available. Specific topics included:

- Status and details of the CAP and GHG inventory, including motivations and barriers to implementation
- Energy efficiency activities being considered
- Assessing their knowledge and experience of the resources and tools provided through the GC program, including assessments about the quality of available resources
- Quality and awareness of resources provided through SEEC as well as tools and training provided by ICLEI
- Importance of utility funding and assistance in future CAP and GHG inventory implementation

---

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/California\\_Jurisdictions\\_Addressing\\_Climate\\_Change\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/California_Jurisdictions_Addressing_Climate_Change_PDF.pdf)



The survey consisted of 33 questions and was designed to take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete. The survey link may be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/aprill1capsurvey>.

## 4.2 Greenhouse Gas Inventory

### 4.2.1 Status

In order to understand the spectrum of GHG inventory maturity across the state, respondents were asked to indicate which option in Table 6 best describes the status of their jurisdictions' GHG inventory development activity. Almost 80% (62 out of 76) of jurisdictions that responded to this survey indicate that they have developed a baseline GHG inventory or developed and updated their GHG inventory. This supports the claim made by an interviewee at PG&E that 80% of the jurisdictions in their territory have already requested energy use data.

**Table 6: GHG Inventory Status of Local Governments**

Description	n=76
City has developed a baseline GHG inventory	50%
City has developed a baseline GHG inventory and updated it recently	32%
City has not completed a baseline GHG inventory	11%
City is in the process of developing a baseline GHG inventory	11%

Over two-thirds of those in the process of developing their GHG inventory anticipate completing it by 2014. Twenty jurisdictions updated their GHG inventory in 2012 or prior, with half of these updated by 2010.

### 4.2.2 Partners

Respondents were asked to select from a list of entities and indicate who they worked with on their GHG inventory/CAP. Of the 52 jurisdictions that reported collaborating with a partner: 58% worked with PG&E, 25% worked with SCE, 17% worked with SoCal Gas and 6% worked with SDG&E. Other than the IOUs, ICLEI (54%) and SEEC (19%) were the most commonly reported collaborators. Respondents could have worked with multiple partners and combinations that could include any of the 32 regional



partners and other entities, the most common of which being AMBAG (13%). Table 7 below summarizes the partners mentioned by local governments as collaborators in their development process.

**Table 7: Partners collaborated with to develop GHG inventories/CAPs**

Partner/IOU Affiliation		(n=50)	
PG&E		60%	
ICLEI		56%	
SCE		26%	
SEEC		20%	
SoCal Gas		18%	
SDGE		6%	
California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA)		2%	
LGC		2%	
Local Government Operations Protocol		2%	
NV Energy		2%	
SMUD		2%	
Strategic Growth Council		2%	
AMBAG	PG&E	14%	
StopWaste.Org		8%	
Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA)		6%	
South Bay Energy Leader Partnership		6%	
South Bay Environmental Services Center		6%	
Bay Area Air Quality Management District		4%	
Joint Venture Silicon Valley (JVSV)		4%	
Sierra Business Council (SBC)		4%	
South Bay Cities COG		4%	
CCA for the Monterey Bay Region		2%	
County of Stanislaus		2%	
Great Valley Center (GVC)		2%	
Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District		2%	
QuEST		2%	
San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District		2%	
San Mateo City/County Association of Governments		2%	
Strategic Energy Innovations		2%	
Turlock Irrigation District		2%	
Kern Energy Watch, Kern COG		All 4 IOUs	2%
San Gabriel Valley Energy Leader Partnership		SCE/ SDG&E/SCG	14%
San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG)	2%		
Santa Ana Energy Leader Partnership	2%		



Simi Valley Energy Leader Partnership		2%
Western Riverside Energy Leader Partnership		2%
Ventura County Energy Leader Partnership	SCE/SDGE/SCG	2%
The San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative	SDG&E/SCG	2%

### 4.2.3 Development Process

Respondents were asked to indicate the process that best described how they developed their GHG inventory. While 6% reported developing their inventory internally using their own resources and tools, a significant majority of over two-thirds of all the local governments surveyed availed of some external assistance to develop their GHG inventories; be it an external consultant subsidized by the IOUs/ARRA and DOE grant or funded internally by the city or from elsewhere. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of all local governments surveyed indicated that their GHG inventory development process involved use of SEEC/ICLEI tools and resources. Table 8 below summarizes local governments’ GHG development process.

**Table 8: GHG Inventory development process adopted by Local Governments**

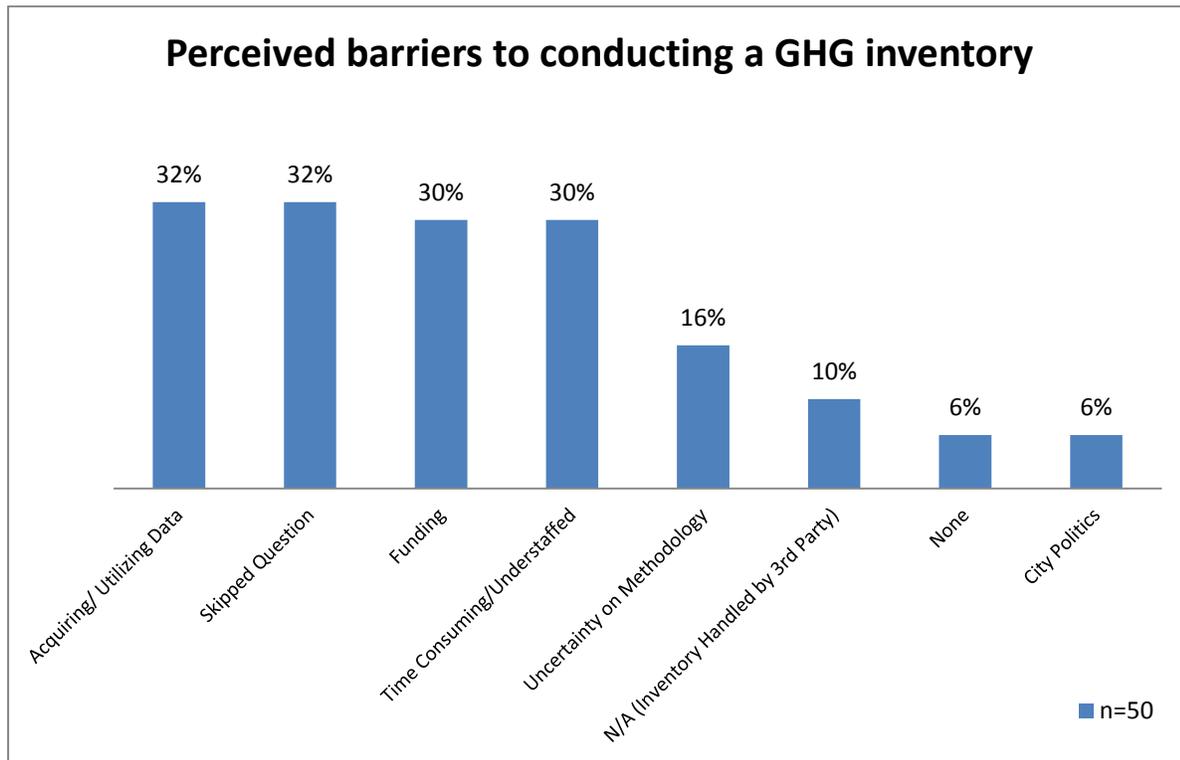
Description	n=51
Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant subsidized by IOU	37%
Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant wholly funded by your city	22%
Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant subsidized by ARRA and DOE grant	2%
Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to ICLEI	2%
Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant; funding unknown	2%
Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using resources such as interns from IOU and tools developed by SEEC/ICLEI	10%
Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using our own resources and tools	6%
Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and Inventory was prepared by COG	4%
Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using tools developed by SEEC/ICLEI	16%



#### 4.2.4 Barriers

Figure 1 below represents the coded responses to an open-ended question regarding the perceived barriers to developing a GHG inventory. Nearly a third of those surveyed (32%) indicate that acquiring/utilizing the data required to develop an inventory was a barrier and 16% of local governments indicated that uncertainty on methodology was a barrier. Respondents also frequently mentioned limited funding, data, or lack of time or staff as barriers. While only 6% respondents specifically reported encountering no barriers, the question was skipped by 32% of the 67 jurisdictions that completed the survey.

**Figure 1: Local government responses to perceived barriers to conducting a GHG inventory**

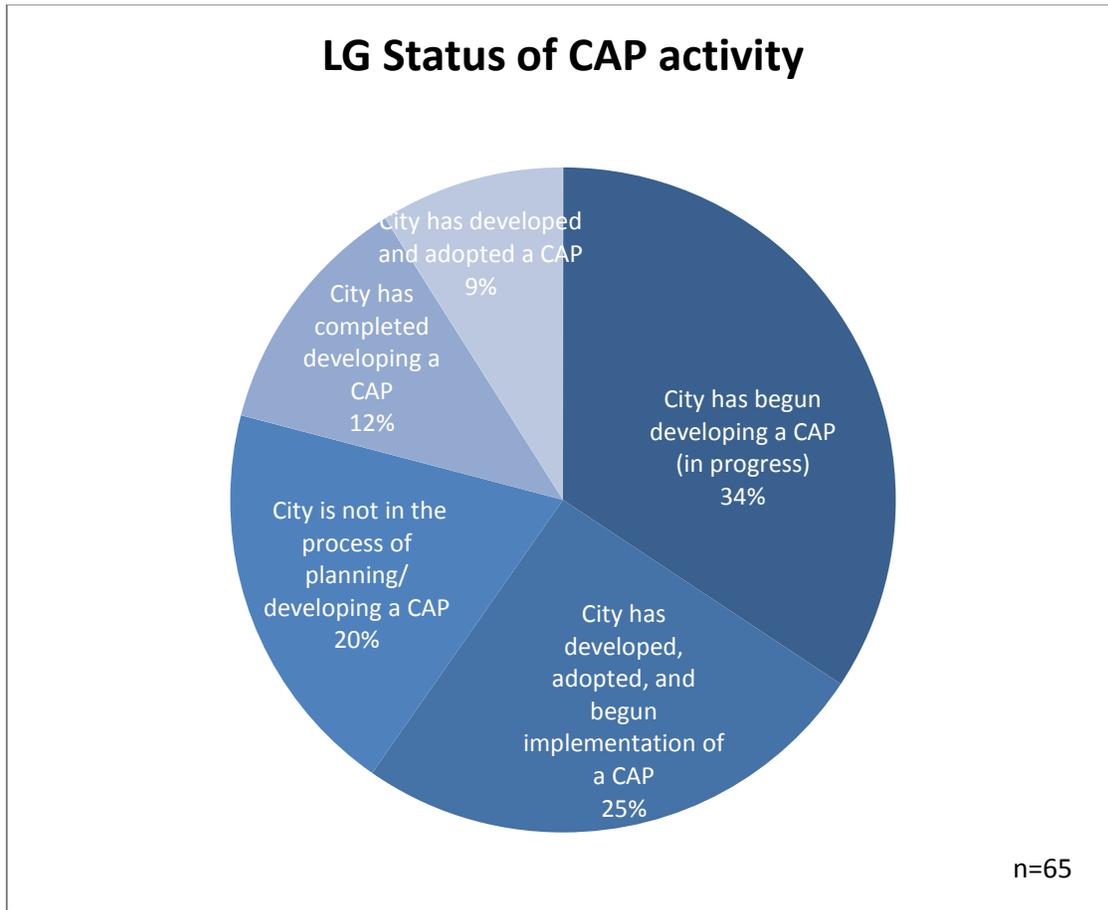


### 4.3 Climate Action Plan

#### 4.3.1 Status

Over one-third (34%) of all jurisdictions that responded indicated that they have adopted or adopted and begun implementation of their CAP and 25% have actually begun implementing their CAP. This implies that 25% of all jurisdictions are potentially tracking their emissions reduction progress. Over half (54%) of the respondents do not have a complete CAP. Figure 2 summarizes the status of CAP activity across the local governments that responded to our survey.

**Figure 2: Local Government Status of CAP activity**

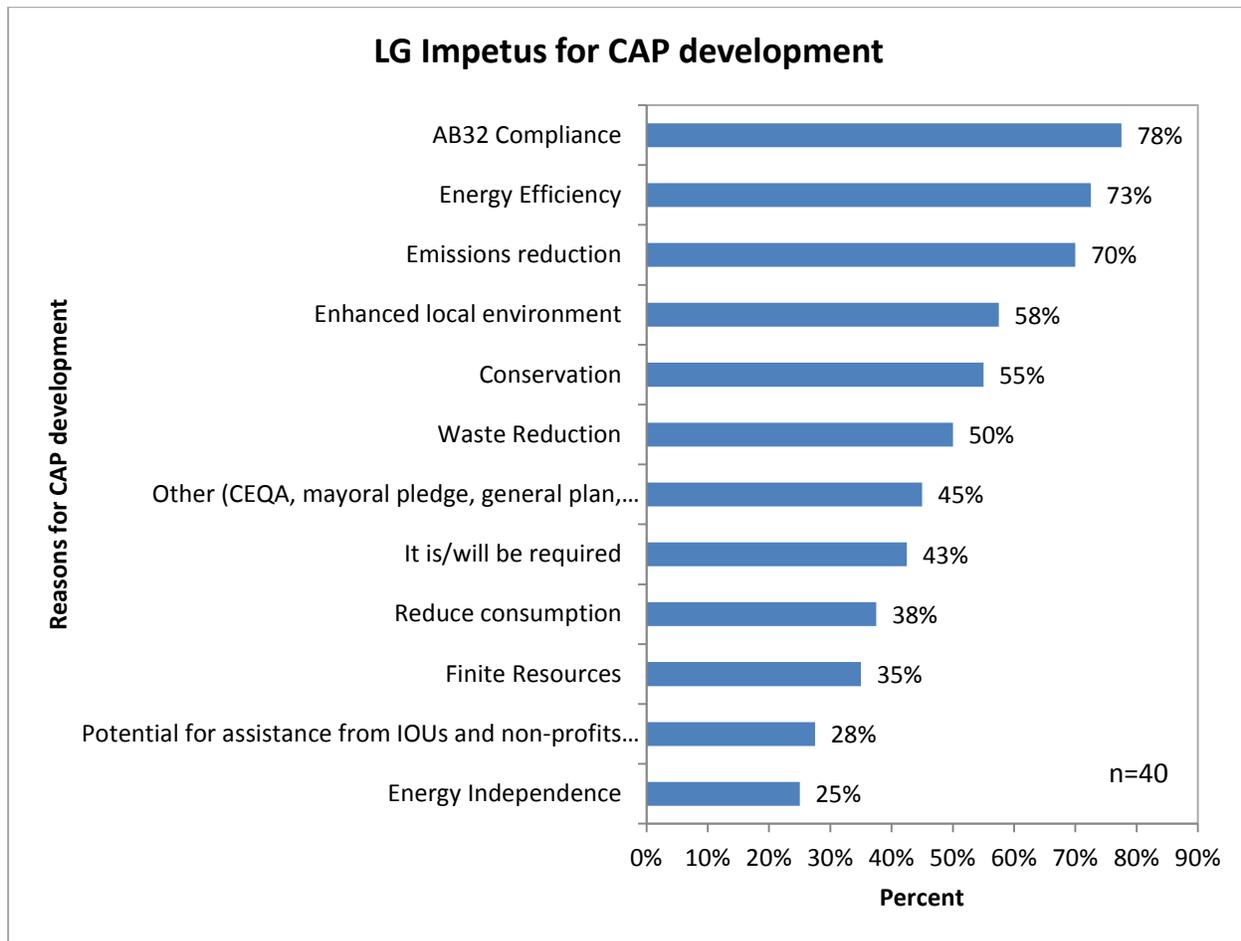


Of the jurisdictions that have not yet completed a CAP, 77% (n=22) estimated that it will be completed in 2013 or 2014. One respondent indicated that they have had a draft CAP ready which they have not been able to adopt due to political concerns. Eighteen jurisdictions had adopted their CAP in 2012 or earlier and 13 jurisdictions implemented their CAP in 2012 or earlier.

**4.3.2 Reasons for Developing a CAP**

AB 32 compliance and energy efficiency (EE) were the two most common reasons selected as the impetus for CAP development when local governments were asked to indicate all applicable options from a pre-defined list. More than nine-out-of-ten of the jurisdictions cited AB32 and/or EE as one of multiple reasons. This indicates that in jurisdictions that are developing CAPs planners and other city staff are familiar with the goals established by the bill. Figure 3 below summarizes the impetus for CAP development among local governments.

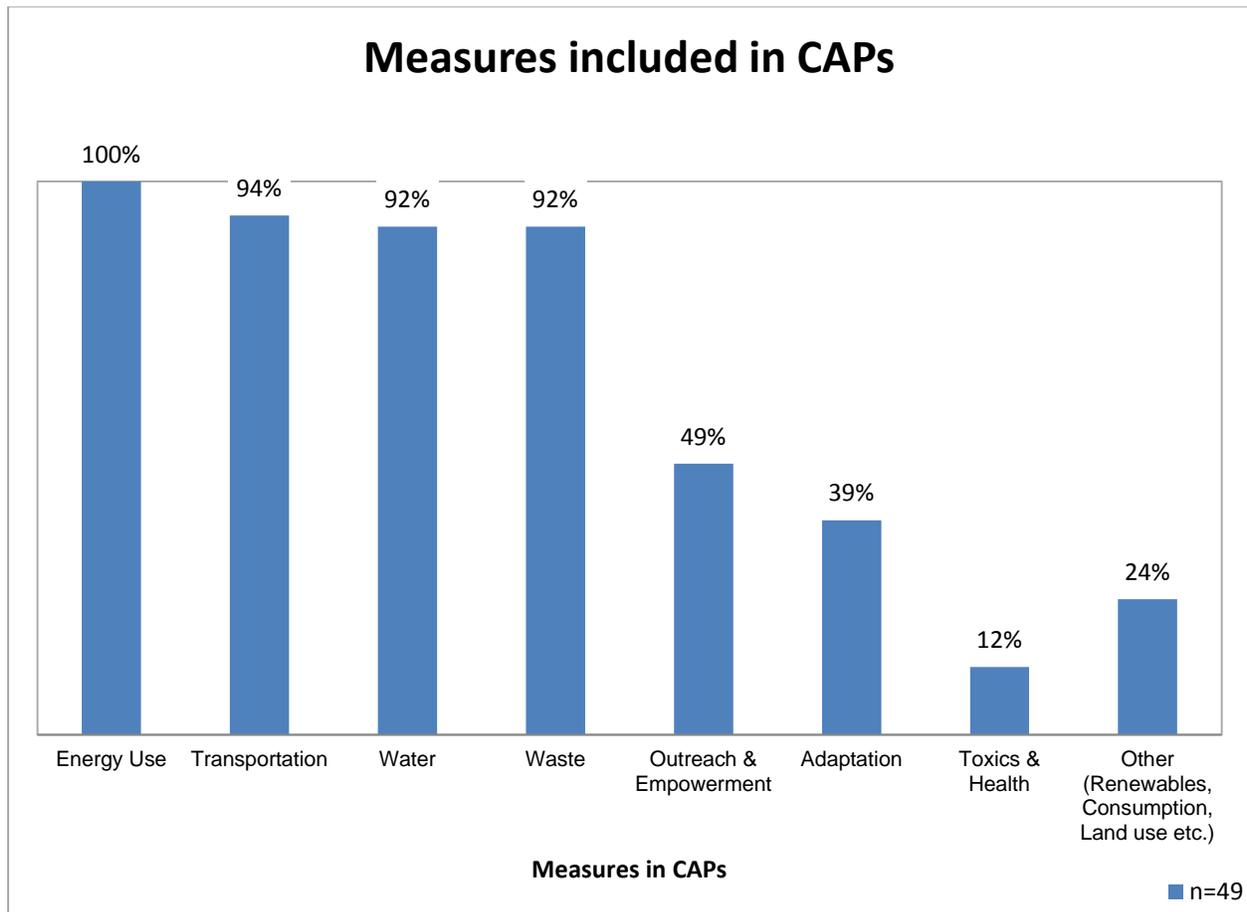
**Figure 3: Local Government Impetus for CAP development**



### 4.3.3 Measures

All of the 49 respondents who have CAPs indicate that their CAP includes measures addressing energy use. In a separate question, nearly 100% of those with CAPs (n=48) reported including provisions for reducing GHGs specifically using energy efficiency. They also almost universally report transportation, water, and waste management as categories of measures they are implementing. This breakdown of measure categories is consistent with our CAP content review. Figure 4 summarizes the various measures included in CAPs by local governments.

**Figure 4: Measures included by Local Governments in CAPs**



#### 4.3.4 Projects

Survey respondents were asked to give open ended descriptions of the types of projects they are considering or committing to in their CAPs. They were prompted to divide their response between the following eight categories:

- Incentives
- Residential
- Commercial
- Municipal
- Education/Outreach
- Codes and Standards
- Renewables
- Other



Responses ranged from single-word descriptors to paragraphs that overlapped between the categories. The following tables represent a count of the most common responses or categories of responses. It is not a count of every time the project type was mentioned but rather a count of the jurisdictions that mentioned the project type at least once (n=62).

Energy efficiency projects were the most commonly reported with 40% of respondents planning or implementing some sort of EE project. Eighty-five percent (85%) of jurisdictions that mentioned EE are implementing Municipal EE projects; 56% are implementing residential and 41% are implementing non-residential projects. Retrofitting was the most common type of project across all sectors.

Renewables was the second most commonly reported category of projects reported by 34% of respondents. Photovoltaic (PV) is the most planned renewables project included in CAPs. Sustainability includes a wide variety of measures from water to waste management. Similar to EE projects, the majority of sustainability measures are municipal, followed by residential and non-residential respectively.

Table 9 below summarizes the types of projects mentioned by Local Governments.

**Table 9: Local government projects considered/committed to in CAP to mitigate GHG emissions**

<u>Project Type</u>	<u>% of Effective Base</u>	<u>% of Sample</u>
<b>EE Incentives</b>	<b>n=27 (73%)</b>	<b>n=37</b>
<b>Municipal</b>	85%	37%
Retrofits	78%	34%
Street lighting	33%	15%
Audits	15%	6%
<b>Residential</b>	56%	24%
Retrofits	37%	16%
Audits	26%	11%
<b>Non residential</b>	41%	18%
Retrofits	33%	15%
Audits	7%	3%
<b>Renewables</b>	<b>n=23 (62%)</b>	<b>n=37</b>
Solar/PV	87%	32%
"Renewable"	30%	11%
Procurement/CCA	26%	10%
Wind	13%	5%
<b>Codes &amp; Standards</b>	<b>n=22 (59%)</b>	<b>n=37</b>
Green Buildings	59%	21%
Permits	55%	19%
Reach Codes	14%	5%
Parking/Streets	14%	5%
C&S Other	32%	11%
<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>n=19 (51%)</b>	<b>n=37</b>
<b>Municipal</b>	74%	23%
Public/Alternate Transportation	26%	8%
Zoning/Planning	26%	8%
Municipal Vehicles	26%	8%
Employee Behavior	21%	6%
Vegetation	21%	6%
Green Buildings	11%	3%
Water	11%	3%
<b>Residential</b>	21%	6%



Green Buildings	16%	5%
Waste Management	11%	3%
Water	5%	2%
<b>Non residential</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>5%</b>
Green Buildings	11%	3%
Water	5%	2%
Waste Management	5%	2%
Sustainability Other	11%	3%
<b>Local Government Directed Financing</b>	<b>n=6 (16%)</b>	<b>n=37</b>
Non residential	67%	6%
Residential	33%	3%
Other	33%	3%



## 4.4 Tools & Resources

### 4.4.1 Awareness

Respondents were asked to indicate their awareness of resources and tools provided through the IOUs, SEEC, and ICLEI. Table 10 represents their responses in relation to their GHG inventory status. 55% of all respondents, across the spectrum of GHG inventory status, indicate awareness of the tools/resources available to them.

**Table 10: Awareness of tools and resources by status of GHG inventory**

GHG Inventory Status \ Aware of Tools	City has developed a baseline GHG inventory	City has developed a baseline GHG inventory and updated it recently	City has not completed a baseline GHG inventory	City is in the process of developing a baseline GHG inventory	Grand Total
Yes	68%	57%	0%	50%	55%
No	14%	30%	13%	0%	17%
Blank	19%	13%	88%	50%	28%
Total “n”	37	23	8	8	76

Table 11 below represents the coded responses to an open ended question regarding respondent awareness of tools and resources and displays summary counts for the distinct terms listed in the first column of the table. Jurisdictions that have not completed an inventory are unaware of any tools and resources.

Jurisdictions in the process of developing their inventory tended to use more broad language when referring to resources such as “GHG inventory tools”, “webinars”, “trainings”, and “PG&E”. Respondents representing jurisdictions that have already developed an inventory tended to use less ambiguous phrasing, mentioning ICLEI and SEEC tools and meetings. Some even named the specific tools such as Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant (CAPPA), Clean Air & Climate Protection (CACP), and the SEEC Climate and Energy Management Suite (CEMS).

**Table 11: Tools and resources mentioned by status of GHG inventory**

GHG Inventory Status	City has developed a baseline GHG inventory	City has developed a baseline GHG inventory and updated it recently	City has not completed a baseline GHG inventory	City is in the process of developing a baseline GHG inventory	Grand Total
<b>Tools</b>					
<b>ICLEI</b>	22%	13%	0%	0%	14%
<b>GHG Inventory</b>	11%	13%	0%	25%	12%
<b>Webinars</b>	11%	9%	0%	25%	11%
<b>Trainings</b>	11%	4%	0%	25%	9%
<b>PG&amp;E</b>	5%	13%	0%	25%	9%
<b>SEEC</b>	16%	4%	0%	0%	9%
<b>CAPPA</b>	16%	0%	0%	0%	8%
<b>CACP</b>	8%	0%	0%	0%	4%
<b>CEMS</b>	5%	0%	0%	0%	3%
<b>SCE</b>	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%
<b>ILG</b>	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%
<b>Total</b>	37	23	8	8	76

**4.4.2 Satisfaction**

The survey asked respondents to rate their experience with the IOUs, ICLEI, and SEEC as a whole in regards to any collaboration or support for GHG inventories and CAPs. The scale was 1-5 with 1 representing “Extremely Dissatisfied” and 5 representing “Extremely Satisfied”. Respondents were also prompted to explain their answer.

Very few respondents rated SEEC on the 1-5 scale, opting to give open ended ratings instead. We categorized these responses as Negative, Neutral, or Positive. Five out of ten (50%) of respondents who answered the question were highly satisfied with ICLEI and SEEC in general. According to the responses, high satisfaction with SEEC and ICLEI are due to the free and comprehensive software they provide and the guidance and training through workshops and webinars (Table 14 and Table 15 below). Half (50%) of the jurisdictions are dissatisfied with their IOU primarily due to the complicated process for obtaining data, length of time it took, and the perceived inaccuracies in the data (Table 13 below). Please note that overall response rates for this question are low and therefore, results should be viewed as anecdotal.

**Table 12: Local government satisfaction with IOUs for GHG/Cap development**

IOU Satisfaction	n=10 <sup>11</sup>
Extremely Satisfied	30%
Extremely Dissatisfied	50%
Don't Know	20%

**Table 13: Local government satisfaction with SEEC for GHG/CAP development**

SEEC Satisfaction	n=28
Positive	50%
Neutral	11%
Negative	14%
N/A	25%

**Table 14: Local government satisfaction with ICLEI for GHG/CAP development**

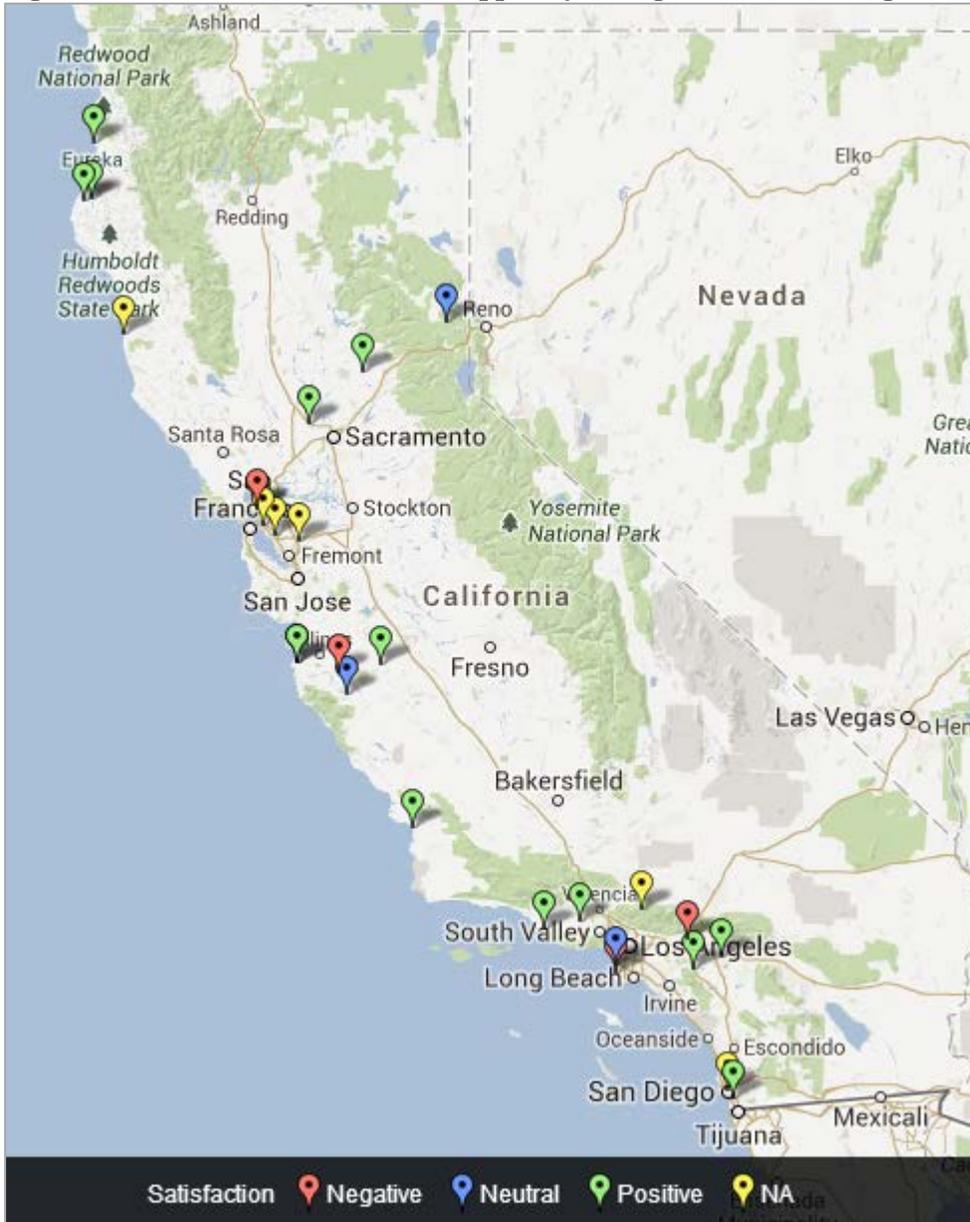
ICLEI Satisfaction	n=8
Extremely Satisfied	50%
Extremely Dissatisfied	13%
N/A	38%

---

<sup>11</sup> Percent based on low effective base (n < 30) for Tables 13, 14, and 15. Results should be viewed as directional/qualitative.

Figure 5 below is a visual representation of all of the SEEC satisfaction ratings mapped to the local governments that provided these ratings. There do not appear to be any regions or utility territories that give SEEC disproportionately positive or negative ratings.

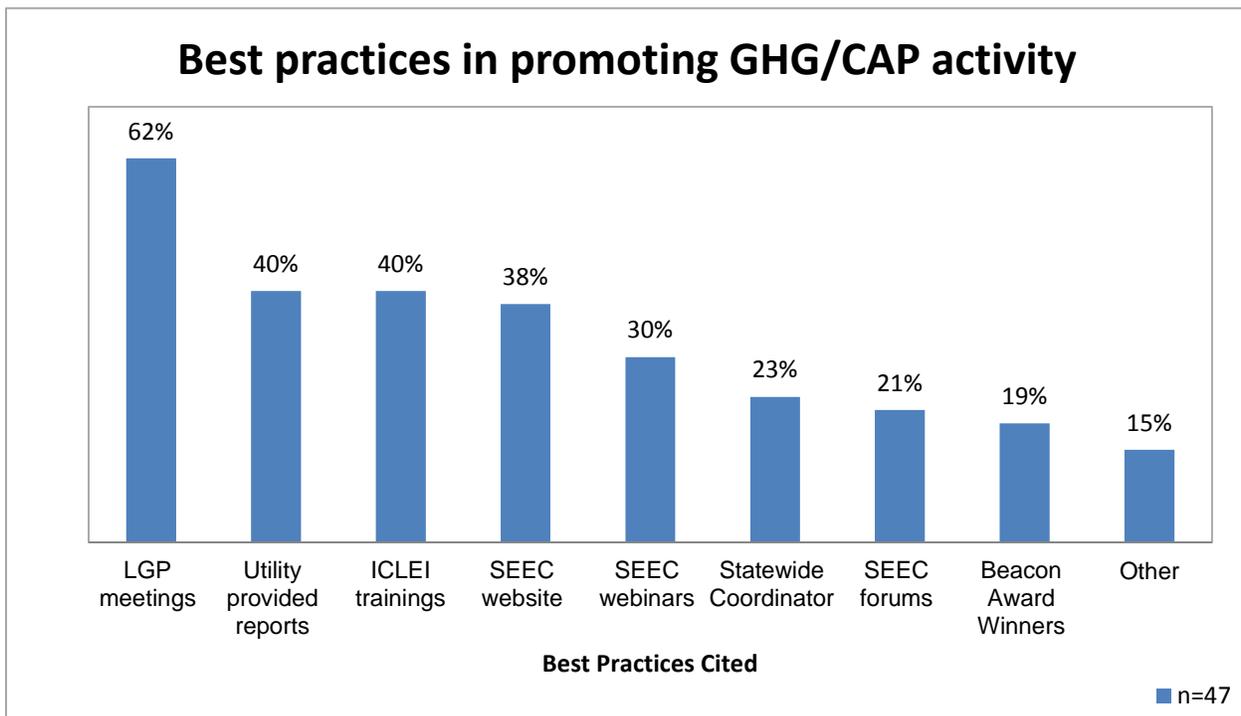
**Figure 5: Satisfaction with SEEC - mapped by local governments ratings**



#### 4.5 Sources of Best Practices Information

By a wide margin, LGP meetings were most frequently reported to be beneficial in promoting best practices in CAP planning (Figure 6 below). The Beacon Award program was the least reported source of best practices information. In a separate question, 80% of the jurisdictions that responded (n=59) indicated that the Beacon Awards had no influence on the practices/targets that they will/have included in their CAP.

**Figure 6: Local government cited best practices in promoting GHG/CAP activity**



#### 4.6 Persistence

Respondents were asked to discuss how their jurisdiction's GHG inventory and/or CAP development and implementation would be affected if there was no longer utility funding, sponsorship, or assistance going forward. The majority (83%) of respondents (n=36) indicated that they would be “extremely affected” in the absence of IOU funding or assistance. This confirms previous suggestions that the primary barriers to developing CAP and GHG inventories are lack of funding and lack of staff resources.

In the absence of future IOU programs, several jurisdictions mentioned seeking alternative assistance and funding from regional entities such as the Redwood Coast Energy Authority. Another option is applying for funding from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program, which grants funds for energy efficiency projects specifically to small cities and counties.

While a few jurisdictions noted that they were “quite far down the path” of developing and implementing their CAPs, most admitted that CAP activities would halt without funding. When asked to comment further, several local jurisdictions explained that they were completely or almost completely reliant on IOU funding for CAP activities. One respondent pointed out that the “funding is the *raison d’être* for the program and without funding it would just be an unfunded mandate.” Another respondent proposed an alternative where the CPUC direct funding to local governments to complete their CAPs. They urged the CPUC to “coordinate with the Attorney General’s Office of Planning and Research to allocate funding to local governments in a manner that is consistent with CAP best practices that conform to the California Environmental Quality Act.”

#### **4.7 Summary of Findings**

The objective of this research was two-fold – to gather insight on the extent and maturity of local governments’ GHG & CAP activity and to solicit local governments’ opinions on programs that offer them assistance to make progress in these activities. A significant majority (80%) of the 76 local governments responding to our survey have completed the foundational step of developing a baseline GHG inventory. One-third of all local governments also indicate that they have developed and adopted a CAP or developed, adopted and begun implementation of their CAP. Implementation of CAPs requires tracking of emissions reductions against set goals and since all of the local governments with CAPs have provisions for reductions through energy efficiency, these measured/claimed reductions are potentially evaluable for the 25% of local governments that have begun implementation of their CAPs.

Over two-thirds of all the local governments surveyed availed of some external assistance to develop their GHG inventories. The GC and SEEC programs offering assistance, tools, resources, peer-to-peer sharing have high awareness amongst local governments that have some GHG and CAP activity. Conversely, there is minimal to low awareness for those who are yet to conduct an inventory and develop a CAP. If awareness is a pre-condition to knowledge and adoption or use of existing resources, this indicates that further outreach and education is required to reach the small but significant minority of 20% of local governments that currently have no activity in this sphere.

Satisfaction with the program, training providers, and the tools and resources is high overall. While very few respondents elected to rate their satisfaction with IOUs (n=10), half of the respondents indicated that they were extremely dissatisfied due to the complicated process and the length of time taken to acquire the data, and the perceived inaccuracies in the data. More research is required to get a better read, and should this finding be corroborated and echoed by a larger base of jurisdictions, the process of data acquisition should be redesigned to serve the jurisdictions better as this is a necessary first step to embark on any GHG or CAP activity.



Our research indicates that limited funding, data, or lack of time or staff for local governments are the primary barriers to GHG inventory and CAP activity. The majority (83%) of respondents (n=36) indicated that they would be “extremely affected” in the absence of IOU funding or assistance. The free templates, guidance documents, webinars etc. provided by NGOs such as ICLEI, ILG, and LGC under SEEC surmount this barrier to a certain extent.

## **5 EVALUABILITY ASSESSMENT**

### **5.1 Introduction**

Per the previous chapters, this study consists of three primary areas of investigation. 1) The first area was to gather all documentation and tracking sources available from the IOUs and NGOs via a data request that delineates the current infrastructure of data collection and tracking. 2) The second area involved conducting in-depth interviews with IOUs and NGOs program staff to help develop a more robust understanding of the program design and implementation activities to inform an assessment on what information may or may not be available to support the impact evaluation. 3) The third area of investigation included conducting the online survey among local governments who are engaged in climate action planning to identify what stage they are in along the climate action planning continuum and to review their plans to assess what information is available to inform an impact evaluation study design. The remainder of this chapter discusses the outcomes of all three areas of investigation in terms of informing the feasibility of an impact evaluation.

### **5.2 Data Review**

Based on interviews with IOU LGP program staff during an initial data assessment with IOUs back in March 2012, we were left with the impression that only PG&E via their Green Communities Program was tracking what the local governments were doing in terms of CAP activity and that very little activity was occurring beyond providing these entities with Green House Gas inventories. In December 2012, PG&E and SCE provided responses to our data requests that actually contained a substantial amount of data. We did not submit a formal data request to SDG&E or SoCal Gas since they indicated in earlier inquiries that they do not track specific GHG/CAP transaction activity (i.e., energy data reports, GHG inventory status, etc.) by jurisdictions. SCE's response included responses from the SEEC NGOs, ICLEI, ILG and LGC.

#### **5.2.1 Data Response Review**

##### **5.2.1.1 PG&E**

PG&E's data response was very comprehensive in the amount of content, however, the various files, spreadsheets and inconsistent formats made reviewing the data in general very cumbersome and mining for specific tracking activity extremely challenging. PG&E provided tracking data in the form of an Excel spreadsheet that tracked which cities and counties have initiated or adopted a municipal GHG inventory or re-inventory, community-wide inventory or re-inventory, or climate action plan with PG&E assistance. PG&E's spreadsheet included results from extensive online research they conducted in April 2010 to



identify which communities completed a GHG inventory and/or CAP independent of GC funding. This research enabled PG&E to determine which communities have not begun the climate planning process and, thus, which communities may be interested in the GC program. PG&E does not continuously track non-IOU-funded GHG inventories or CAPs; the April 2012 analysis was a one-time effort to assist with program planning. PG&E does not separately track the development stage of GC-funded Inventories and CAPs; however, they do obtain this information through quarterly and annual progress reports required for all GC contracts. Below is a snapshot of the tracking sheet PG&E provided.

**Figure 7: PG&E Climate Action Planning Activity Tracking Sheet**

Local Government Climate Planning Status in PG&E Territory									
PG&E Government Partnerships - Green Communities									
Last Update: April 2012									
Key: X = Completed or In-Progress									
O = Completed or In-Progress with PG&E Assistance									
Area	County	Jurisdiction	Local Government Partnership	2005-2008 Municipal GHG Inventory	2005-2008 Community GHG Inventory	SPM 3 & 4 - Climate Action Plan or Equivalent	2010-2013 Community Re-inventory	2010-2013 Municipal Re-inventory	Notes
1	San Francisco County	San Francisco County and City	San Francisco	X	X	X			
1	San Mateo County	Atherton town	San Mateo	X	X			O	
1	San Mateo County	Belmont city	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	can't download PDF
1	San Mateo County	Brisbane city	San Mateo	X	X				
1	San Mateo County	Burlingame city	San Mateo	X	X				
1	San Mateo County	Colma town	San Mateo	X	X			O	
1	San Mateo County	Daly City city	San Mateo	X	X	X			
1	San Mateo County	East Palo Alto city	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	Foster City city	San Mateo	X	X			O	
1	San Mateo County	Half Moon Bay city	San Mateo	X	X				
1	San Mateo County	Hillsborough town	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	Menlo Park city	San Mateo	X	X	X			
1	San Mateo County	Millbrae city	San Mateo	X	X			O	Update from C
1	San Mateo County	Pacifica city	San Mateo	X	X	X			
1	San Mateo County	Portola Valley town	San Mateo	X	X			O	
1	San Mateo County	Redwood City city	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	San Bruno city	San Mateo	X	X				
1	San Mateo County	San Carlos city	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	San Mateo city	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	San Mateo County	San Mateo	X	X	X		O	
1	San Mateo County	South San Francisco city	San Mateo	X	X	X			
1	San Mateo County	Woodside town	San Mateo	X	X				
2	Alameda County	Alameda city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Alameda County	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Albany city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Berkeley city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Dublin city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Emeryville city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Fremont city	East Bay	X	X	X			
2	Alameda County	Hayward city	East Bay	X	X	X			Add re-inventory pro Ston.Waste

Using the spreadsheet, we can determine the number of jurisdictions that have completed GHG inventories in PG&E's service area. The spreadsheet also distinguishes between baseline, which is the calendar years between 2005 and 2008 analyzed for inventories, and if there is a re-inventory or inventory updates that analyzes a calendar year between 2010 and 2013. PG&E also provided a second spreadsheet indicating the regional partnership that led the development of the GHG inventories supported by GC. These inventories were usually done in groups of 6 to 20 local governments in order to achieve economies of scale. Regional partners leading a regional GHG inventory included the Great Valley Center (GVC), Sierra Business Council (SBC), and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), among others. The spreadsheet also has information on the number of CAPs that PG&E financially supports as committed to in the entity's contract with PG&E and the monthly and quarterly progress reports required



by the GC program. A key challenge with the reporting on CAPs is the inconsistency in how this information is funneled to the tracking spreadsheet.

Based on the interviews with PG&E's Local Government program staff and the CEMs, there do not appear to be any formal internal protocols on how information is regularly updated in the tracking sheet. As noted, PG&E does receive regular reports from the regional partners but it is not clear what methods or format PG&E's CEMs may use for tracking their involvement with entities. Additionally, any information provided in the spreadsheet on jurisdictions that are not funded by PG&E was gathered as part of a "one-time" gap analysis that would have to be repeated if an update is needed.

Finally, since the SEEC and Green Communities programs are nonresource programs, PG&E does not identify or track at a level of detail, per CAP, the energy efficiency projects or the estimated energy savings that may be attributable to their efforts. As such, PG&E has no means for forecasting expected energy impacts or the proportion of energy savings driven to other programs due to the CAP activities they fund.

Going forward, if the CPUC determines that these programs should begin to track energy impacts, PG&E will need to implement more formal internal reporting to ensure there is consistent and up-to-date tracking on the key metrics of the various phases toward implementing a CAP. While the tracking should only include entities that PG&E has assisted with some funding; the tracking of these entities should extend beyond the stages of acquiring energy data reports but continue on to monitor whether they have GHG inventories and CAPs (whether PG&E funded these later stages or not) since this is the most critical determinant of readiness for an impact evaluation.

#### 5.2.1.2 SCE

SCE's data response also included a spreadsheet on entities receiving GHG inventories and entities with a CAP and/or EAP (Energy Action Plan) These are entities that SCE has funded through their solicitation where local governments bid directly for funding for their CAP activities and entities that are receiving CAP support through embedded funding with the existing LGP programs. SCG also supports these activities through embedded funding. SCE's spreadsheet includes codes (1-3) to indicate whether the EAP or CAP is funded via the solicitations or has an "E" to indicate the funding is embedded with partnership funding. SCE's spreadsheet was less descriptive in that it only had the name of the partnership, the Local Government Partner, contact names, email address, phone numbers, and addresses for the contact to indicate which City they represent (see below screen shot). The spreadsheet only had an X to indicate whether the entity has conducted a GHG inventory or started or finished a CAP. While SCE did provide the spreadsheet on activities, it is not clear if there are internal protocols for entering this information. SCE states that they track percent complete for activity via an access database; however, this information was



not included with the data request so we cannot confirm the status or condition of such information. Similar to PG&E, SCE does not track individual energy efficiency projects or energy savings that are attributable to their CAP support efforts. However, it does appear that SCE is accomplishing more EAPs via the embedded track versus the solicitations. See below screen shot for example of SCE tracking.



5.2.1.3 The Governor’s Office of Planning and Research

In addition to the data obtained from the utilities, we also consulted the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) database of California Jurisdictions addressing Climate Change (Figure 9) We use the OPR to further assess the status of CAP development in CA and to compare our targeted LGP sample list for the online survey with the contact information obtained from the IOUs and SEEC. OPR has prepared a list of plans and initiatives adopted by California Jurisdictions to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The information in this document was obtained from OPR’s 2012 Annual Planning Survey. Additionally, LGs are encouraged to email OPR with updates to the database.<sup>12</sup>

**Figure 9: OPR California Jurisdictions Addressing Climate Change Survey**

**California Jurisdictions Addressing Climate Change**



The Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) has prepared a list of plans and initiatives adopted by California Jurisdictions to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These plans typically involve setting GHG emission reduction goals and adopting implementation measures to achieve those goals. This information is from OPR’s 2012 Annual Planning Survey. Please email [State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov) if you would like to have your local government climate change plan or program included or updated on this list. As with all OPR publications, you may print all or part of this spreadsheet, or you may manipulate the data to gain a more meaningful understanding. You need not secure permission; just copy it accurately and give credit to OPR. *Updated 8/17/12.*

Jurisdiction Information			Climate Change Information	Climate Change Policies and Programs								
Name	Type	Resource	Has your jurisdiction adopted, or is in the process of drafting, policies and/or programs to address climate change and/or to reduce GHG emissions for community and municipal activities?	Status	Climate Action Plan	General Plan Policy	General Plan Impl. Measures	GHG Reduction Plan	Sustainability Plan	Ordinances	To Be Determined	Other
City of Agoura Hills	City	<a href="#">City of Agoura Hills</a>	Yes	Adopted	•	•						
City of Alameda	City	<a href="#">Local Action Plan for Clima</a>	Yes	Adopted	•							
City of Albany	City	<a href="#">Climate Action Plan</a>	Yes	Adopted	•							
City of Alhambra	City	n/a	No	Planned								
City of American Canyon	City	n/a	No	Planned								
City of Anaheim	City	n/a	No	No								
City of Anderson	City	n/a	No	Planned								
City of Angels Camp	City	n/a	No	No								
City of Antioch	City	<a href="#">Community and Municipal</a>	Yes	Adopted	•							
City of Arcadia	City	n/a	No	No								
City of Arcata	City	<a href="#">Community Greenhouse Ga</a>	Yes	Adopted	•							
City of Arcata	City	n/a	No	Planned								
City of Arroyo Grande	City	<a href="#">City of Arroyo Grande</a>	Yes	In Progress	•	•	•	•		•		
City of Artesia	City	<a href="#">City of Artesia</a>	Yes	Adopted	•	•		•	•	•		
City of Arvin	City	n/a	No	Planned								
City of Atascadero	City	<a href="#">Central Coast GHG Planning</a>	Yes	In Progress	•			•				
City of Auburn	City	n/a	No	No								
City of Avalon	City	<a href="#">City of Avalon</a>	Yes	In Progress		•						
City of Avenal	City	n/a	No	Planned								

<sup>12</sup>[http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/California\\_Jurisdictions\\_Addressing\\_Climate\\_Change\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/California_Jurisdictions_Addressing_Climate_Change_PDF.pdf)



### 5.2.2 CAP Readiness

A key indicator on whether a jurisdiction with a completed CAP is ready for evaluation is whether or not the CAP has been adopted and funded to allow implementation to proceed. This process can be extremely lengthy depending on the policy requirements (i.e., City Council approval, etc.) and resources available to support the CAP. As noted in chapter 2 from the survey results, 30 (40%) of the 76 respondents with a GHG inventory reported that their jurisdiction is either currently in the process of developing a CAP, or completed but not yet adopted a CAP. Of the 76 that have started their CAP, 22 provided an estimate on when they anticipate completing their CAP. Table 16 indicates what year they anticipate completing their CAP.

**Table 15: Anticipated CAP Completion Year**

Anticipated Completion Year	n=22
2013	50%
2014	27%
Don't Know	23%

Additionally, 23 out the 76 have actually adopted a CAP and 16 have begun implementing their CAP. Based on these results, there are 16 active CAPs currently being implemented that may be ready for an impact evaluation at some point over the next year or two. There are another 23 waiting for either adoption that may or may not occur depending on the jurisdiction (anecdotal information provided in the in-depth interviews indicated that some jurisdictions may have no intention of adopting their CAPs due to lack of resources and local politics). Finally, there are another 22 jurisdictions who anticipate completing their CAPs over the next year and half however, we do not have a time horizon or can even anticipate whether or not their CAPs will ever be adopted.

The following jurisdictions reported having adopted and begun implementation of their CAP. Given the size of some of the jurisdictions with active CAPs there could be significant energy efficiency activity embedded within their plans.

- Chula Vista
- Citrus Heights
- Fort Bragg
- Fremont
- Gonzales
- Hayward
- Hillsborough
- Marin County



- Monterey Park
- Oakland
- Pleasanton
- San Leandro
- San Pablo
- San Ramon
- Santa Cruz
- Sonoma County

One final concern regarding determining CAP readiness, as noted earlier, PG&E and SCE tracking sheets only noted the CAPs for the jurisdictions they are actively engaged in supporting. Comparing the IOU tracking and OPR survey results to our survey results (Table 17), it is clear that there is inconsistent tracking of information that could indicate how far along the jurisdictions are with developing/adopting their CAPs; plus the IOUs are not always consistent with the survey on whether a CAP is adopted. The NGOs do not actively track who has completed a CAP, they primarily track visits to websites, webinar participants, tools developed, etc. Without a consistent method of tracking both independently developed and IOU-supported CAPs it will be difficult to associate any savings to IOU support. At this point, the only means of developing a comprehensive estimate of the potential population of jurisdictions with an adopted CAP is to conduct a survey. This is not the most efficient approach to developing a sample frame (or census) for conducting an evaluation going forward.



**Table 16: Comparison of LG Survey Responses to IOU Tracking and OPR Survey**

<u>City</u>	<u>LG Survey CAP Status</u>	<u>IOUs CAP Status*</u>	<u>OPR Survey CAP Status</u>
Rio Dell			
Willows			
Saratoga			Developing CAP
Ventura County			Adopted CAP
Canyon Lake		Completed or developing EAP	
Culver City		Completed or developing EAP	Developing CAP
Seaside		Completed or developing CAP	
Soledad		Completed or developing CAP	
Ferndale	Not yet developing CAP		
Fortuna	Not yet developing CAP		
Nevada County	Not yet developing CAP		
Placerville	Not yet developing CAP		
San Dimas	Not yet developing CAP		
Sierra County	Not yet developing CAP		
South Pasadena	Not yet developing CAP		
Glendora	Not yet developing CAP		Developing CAP
Lomita	Not yet developing CAP		Developing CAP
Rancho Cucamonga	Not yet developing CAP		Developing CAP
Trinidad	Not yet developing CAP		Developing CAP
Pacific Grove	Not yet developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Oxnard	Not yet developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Hermosa Beach	Developing CAP		
Los Angeles County	Developing CAP		
Delano	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Folsom	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Healdsburg	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Hughson	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
La Canada Flintridge	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Ontario	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Yuba County	Developing CAP		Developing CAP
Los Angeles	Developing CAP		Adopted CAP
Palos Verdes Estates	Developing CAP		Adopted CAP
Temecula	Developing CAP	Completed or developing EAP	Adopted CAP
Bakersfield	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	
San Benito County	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	
Fairfield	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP



Grover Beach	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Monterey County	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Richmond	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Santa Ana	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Taft	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Woodland	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Monterey	Developing CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Manteca	Completed CAP		
South El Monte	Completed CAP		
Pomona	Completed CAP		Developing CAP
San Diego	Completed CAP		Adopted CAP
El Cerrito	Completed CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Sunnyvale	Completed CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Brea	Adopted CAP		
Inglewood	Adopted CAP		
Encinitas	Adopted CAP		Adopted CAP
Simi Valley	Adopted CAP		Adopted CAP
Moreno Valley	Adopted CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Redwood City	Adopted CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Sonoma County	Begun implementation of CAP		
Fort Bragg	Begun implementation of CAP		Developing CAP
Monterey Park	Begun implementation of CAP		Developing CAP
Chula Vista	Begun implementation of CAP		Adopted CAP
Fremont	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Gonzales	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Oakland	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
San Pablo	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Santa Cruz	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Developing CAP
Citrus Heights	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Hayward	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Hillsborough	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Marin county	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
Pleasanton	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
San Leandro	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP
San Ramon	Begun implementation of CAP	Completed or developing CAP	Adopted CAP

\*Status may refer to Community or Municipal CAPs/EAPs.

### 5.2.3 CAP Content Review

In an effort to fill in the gaps in tracking information on what type of energy efficiency projects/actions jurisdictions are including in the CAPs to meet their emissions reduction targets we attempted to gather this information through follow-up interviews among the 16 jurisdictions who are implementing their CAPs. Our follow-up included questions on anticipated savings, timing, and trajectory of gains (or reduction in energy consumption/GHG emissions) due to EE projects. Our initial calls gave a strong indication that city representatives did not have this information readily available to them and that it would be equally, if not more, efficient and informative to find the answers directly by reading the CAPs. We were able to locate the CAPs for all of the 27 jurisdictions on their local government website. Below summarizes the extent of the content we were able to uncover on key variables needed to support an impact evaluation.

#### 5.2.3.1 Baseline

A key component for planning an approach for quantifying potential program impacts is determining program progress relative to the baseline year for measurement. In the case for quantifying CAPs, the baseline for emissions measurement is typically 2005-2008 for consistency with AB32 scoping plan. The target per ARB is 15% below 2005-2008 levels to be equivalent to 1990 levels. ARB established the baseline years at 2005-2008 because cities and counties rarely have local data going back to 1990. For energy efficiency evaluation purposes, using the existing measurement protocols that specify the baseline as the period just up to the program start (or participation) is appropriate for CAP energy efficient projects or programs.

#### 5.2.3.2 Reduction Goals

All completed and draft CAP's specify overall target levels in metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e) mitigation from their baseline by the year 2020. Many jurisdictions have targets before and after 2020, the most frequent years being 2035 and 2050. One of the CAPs sampled expressed all goals in terms of per capita reductions. Because of expected population growth, their emission target for 2020 actually represents an overall increase from the baseline for their city. A few CAPs explicitly state targets in terms of kWh or therms they aim to reduce by each measure they will implement. Many CAPs assumed savings directly in MtCO<sub>2</sub>e, although they would have had to aggregate up from the original kWh and therm assumed savings in order to arrive at the GHG reductions in MtCO<sub>2</sub>e. The point to underscore here is that there is variability in how these are reported. In reviewing the tools provided by SEEC and ICLEI and the

information within the CAPs, it appears that all jurisdictions tend to use the same conversion factor of natural gas to CO<sub>2</sub> established by EPA<sup>13</sup>. Below is the conversion factor for therms.<sup>14</sup>

### **0.005306 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>/ therm**

Energy efficiency was one of multiple elements for meeting emissions reductions. CAPs included reductions from sustainability efforts with recycling, water, garbage, transportation, city planning/zoning, etc. For some cities reduction from energy will come primarily from renewables in schools and municipal facilities, etc. Any efforts for energy efficiency tend to roll up into an overall “energy” target. Emission reductions in these areas are the primary components that roll up to the overall emission target.

#### 5.2.3.3 Energy

Proposed reductions from energy-related projects vary widely from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Measures commonly mentioned in the CAPs include special permitting for renewables projects, financial incentives, municipal upgrades, street lighting upgrades, reach codes, and energy audits/direct install.

In addition to proposed community-wide measures, many jurisdictions also incorporate state and utility level reductions into their CAPs. AB 32, California’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, smart meters, and lighting efficiency standards are commonly given an assumed annual GHG reduction, and jurisdictions also assume reductions from education and promotion of IOU and regional EE programs.

A review of CAPs reveals a range in how the local governments are specifying their targets in the CAPs and how they are monitoring progress towards these. In some cases, while the CAP lays out in detail the specific measures that they will/hope to implement to achieve targets in line with AB32 goals, the metrics that are actually tracked do not always map to each of these proposed implementations. While local governments might update GHG inventories annually, the reductions are not necessarily tied to specific energy efficiency or other measures undertaken.

---

<sup>13</sup> Each electric utility has a different fuel mix, and thus a different CO<sub>2</sub> conversion factor per kWh. PG&E calculates our CO<sub>2</sub> coefficient through The Climate Registry (TCR) and reports our new coefficient annually to local governments in an info sheet. See link below. The other utilities have coefficients included in the Local Government Operations Protocol for municipal GHG inventories.

[http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/shared/environment/calculator/pge\\_ghg\\_emission\\_factor\\_info\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/shared/environment/calculator/pge_ghg_emission_factor_info_sheet.pdf)

Our coefficients will continue to decrease as we implement the RPS. End-use natural gas consumption has the same CO<sub>2</sub> coefficient regardless of the utility.

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/refs.html>

We did note that some cities that reported on progress towards the CAP targets referenced reports from contractors employed by the city. In order to develop an evaluation approach, evaluators will need to drill down to identify which cities are employing contractors to implement the jurisdiction's energy efficiency strategy. This will allow the evaluator to determine the level of detail available at a project level to support framing an overall evaluation approach. Such an effort is beyond the scope of this project. However, we do note there is some level of tracking, but it varies from city to city.

#### 5.2.3.4 Tracking Accomplishments

Of the CAPs reviewed, we note that about half made specific mention of tracking resources. Of those that do discuss tracking and measuring progress in their CAP, the commitment is usually to assign city staff to regularly update some sort of tracking and reporting tool most likely at an aggregate level. One city specifically mentioned CACP while others state they plan to develop their own tools. Others made commitments to update GHG inventories annually, report annually/semi-annually, and one city plans to hire part time staff specifically to monitor CAP progress. However, some jurisdictions are providing site specific project data on their websites, including estimated annual savings in kWh and therms. Such inconsistency in what may or may not be available will make it challenging if not impossible to conduct a comprehensive program evaluation across all participating jurisdictions.

#### 5.2.3.5 Scheduled Milestones

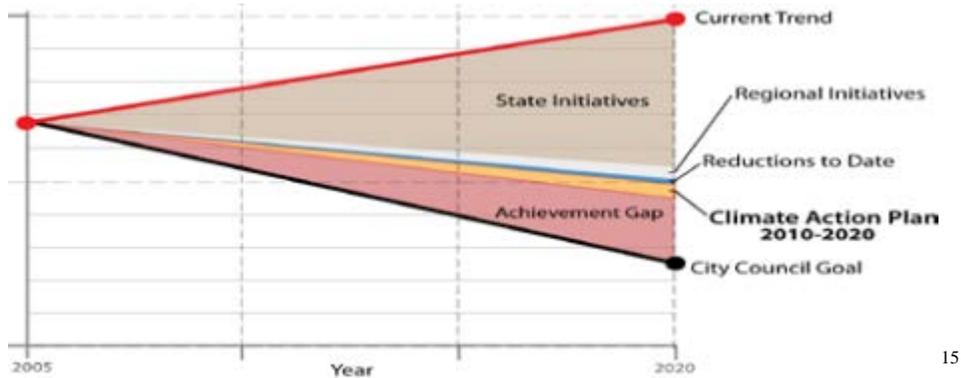
Other than the 2020 reduction goals, no two jurisdictions take the same approach to monitoring progress towards their goals. More advanced cities may include Gantt charts with annual budgets. Some have interim GHG reduction goals but are less specific about how they plan to achieve them. Others have lists of "suggested" or "planned" measures they likely will implement. These are usually assigned to a responsible department or agency. Generally, the CAPs assume a linear reduction in annual emissions between their baseline year and 2020 as indicated in the sample charts (see Figure 10) taken from two of the climate action plans. Such linear interpolations do not reveal the variability in the trajectory of savings realized due to various energy efficiency measures. This variability can be due to the inherent difference in savings potential of various activities, differences in when implementation begins and finally how each activity is scaled out.

Figure 10 show that different jurisdictions don't necessarily use consistent sub categorization of their reduction goal timelines. It is often difficult to determine whether savings are intended to be attributed to state initiatives, regional initiatives, or IOU programs. As a result, there is potentially double counting of what may be occurring at the annual or semi-annual reporting if they were to provide this information. The key issue here for evaluators is that there is no consistent indicator within or across jurisdictions to signal when CAP energy efficiency activities may have reached a level of scale to support conducting an

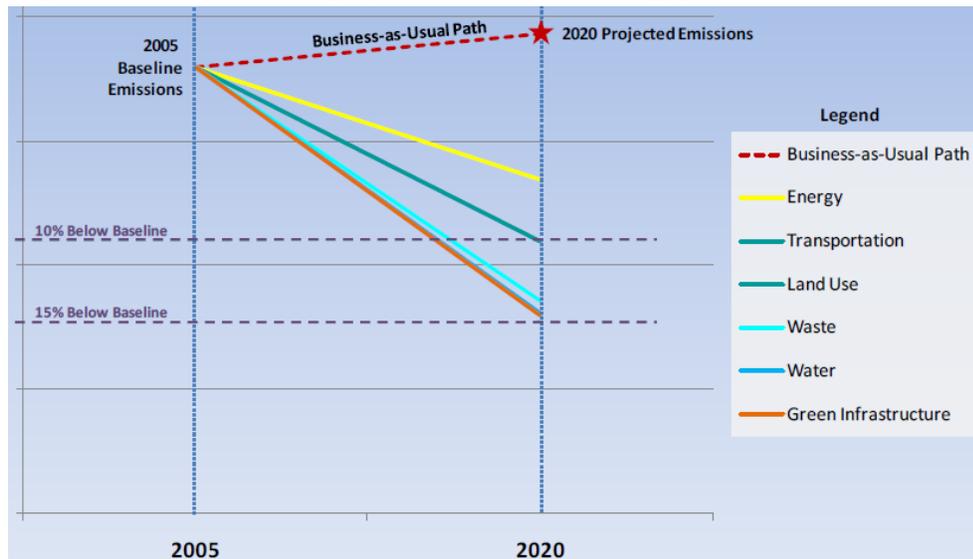


impact evaluation and it is possible that reported milestones from the jurisdictions will be overly optimistic.

Figure 10: Sample Local Government GHG Reduction Strategy Charts



15



16

### 5.3 Conclusions

As evident above, there appears to be substantial movement in jurisdictions adopting and implementing CAPs and jurisdictions with CAPs moving up the pipeline. There are several unknowns on jurisdictions with CAPs that are waiting to be adopted. Yet, the jurisdictions currently implementing CAPs are large enough in population and buildings and could represent a sizeable impact in energy savings depending on how much energy efficiency is included in their plans and when they hope to achieve their targets.

A key barrier impacting the readiness for evaluating for impacts is the lack of consistency in tracking CAPs activity maturity. IOUs seem to loosely monitor whether the CAP is adopted and in the field and

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.fremont.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/6266>

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.citrusheights.net/docs/toc\\_acknowledgements.pdf](http://www.citrusheights.net/docs/toc_acknowledgements.pdf)

therefore may miss opportunities to continue to actually track energy efficiency accomplishments that may be attributable to the program.

Other than SCE's Energy Leader Model which incentivizes LGs for 5, 10, and 20% reductions, there do not appear to be any guidelines from the IOUs or SEEC to jurisdictions on a consistent method for establishing energy efficiency goals or monitoring energy efficiency progress and accomplishments. We do note that SEEC provide templates for constructing CAPs and tools for updating GHG inventories and reporting metric ton reductions. However, these tools and templates do not support tracking energy efficiency activity at the project level. Any attempt to evaluate the current CAP program of activities at the program-level would be challenging and costly. The level of disaggregation across entities in what and how they deliver CAP activities is on a similar par to standard performance contracts where each contract is individually assessed on performance. This may be the best approach for addressing energy efficiency embedded in CAPs (especially for the largest cities) at this time.

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

Energy Division has expressed an interest in determining whether there are any energy efficiency savings that are attributable to the 2010-12 SEEC and GC programs. Given the lack of a reporting infrastructure within the IOUs or required by the jurisdictions, this would make such an evaluation task extremely challenging. Additionally, the scope of this evaluation did not allow for the level of digging through the local government/regional partnership documentation and implementation efforts to fully understand the scope of information that may or may not be available. If the program will continue through the next cycle, we offer the following recommendations:

- Conduct a thorough review of the role of regional partners and what resources they provide both the utilities and local governments. The regional partners appear to be a middleman in implementing the program on behalf of all IOUs. They conduct outreach to the local governments and help them along in establishing their CAPs.
- The utilities will need to establish program guidelines that include a formal reporting and tracking process to ensure that all energy efficiency related milestones are consistently tracked and updated by program and account staff. (SCE states that they do track percent complete for activity via an access database; however, this information was not included with the data request so we cannot confirm the status or condition of such information)
- The utilities should develop a database that tracks when energy data reports are requested and sent. Database metrics should include; energy consumption by customer categories, estimated GHG emissions by customer categories, and participation in EE programs. As jurisdictions request updates to the inventory, the database should flag if there substantial changes for key metrics (i.e., number of customers, consumption, estimated GHG, program participation) from the



previous period. This will ensure that potentially impactful changes are monitored and prioritized for evaluation.

- The utilities should establish reporting guidelines for regional partners who are aggregators for signing up local governments for CAP activities. The reporting guidelines should include:
  - A process where either the regional partners or entities provide regular reports or update a tracking database on their status towards developing CAPs, adopting CAPs or implementing CAPs.
  - A process that allows for consistency in establishing energy efficiency targets (i.e., a menu of options) for the CAPs and identify the percent of the target they hope to make on an annual basis and from what projects.
  - A process for progress reports or updating the tracking database including obtaining updates from third party implementers the local governments may employ to implement the energy efficiency component of their CAP (tracking should be commensurate with the timeline of their projects; i.e., if changing out traffic lights with LEDs, they may report on a quarterly basis; if retrofitting municipal buildings and schools should report on when each building is complete.)
- The utilities will also need to track whether the CAP projects receives program rebates to address potential double counting.
- Energy Division should consider a measurement and evaluation approach similar to Standard Performance contracts where the evaluator would select jurisdictions with mature CAPs and conduct and design an evaluation plan for each CAP(s) as opposed to conducting a program-wide evaluation.



**6 APPENDIX**

## 6.1 LIST OF ACRONYMS

- AB 32: Assembly Bill 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006)
- AMBAG: Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
- CACP: Clean Air & Climate Protection
- CAP: Climate Action Plan
- CAPP: Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant
- CCA: Community Choice Aggregation
- CEM: PG&E Customer Energy Manager
- CEMS: SEEC Climate and Energy Management Suite
- COG: Council of Governments
- EAP: Energy Action Plan (Energy Chapter for CAP)
- EE: Energy efficiency
- GC: Green Community
- GHG: Greenhouse Gas
- GVC: Great Valley Center
- ICLEI: Originally stood for the “International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives”, but in 2003 the organization simply became “ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability”
- IEAP: International Emissions Analysis Protocol
- ILG: Institute for Local Government
- IOU: Investor-owned utility
- JVS: Joint Venture Silicon Valley
- LGC: Local Government Commission
- LGO Protocol: Local Government Operations Protocol
- LGP: Local Government Partnership
- MtCO<sub>2</sub>e: Metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent
- NGO: Non-governmental organization
- NV Energy: Nevada Energy
- PG&E: Pacific Gas and Electric
- QuEST: Quantum Energy Services & Technologies, Inc.
- SB 375: Senate Bill 375 (Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008)
- SBC: Sierra Business Council
- SCE: Southern California Edison
- SDG&E: San Diego Gas and Electric
- SEEC: Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative
- SMUD: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- SoCal Gas: Southern California Gas Company



## **6.3 Other SEEC Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)**

### **6.3.1 Institute for Local Government (ILG)**

The ILG is the main non-profit research arm for the League of California Cities and the State Association of Counties and is connected with all cities and counties in California. Their primary focus is the Beacon award climate and sustainability recognition program that's part of SEEC and funded through the utilities. The Beacon award recognizes measurable accomplishments by cities and counties to reduce GHG emissions and save energy and undertake activities in 10 sustainability best practice areas.

ILG also provides CAP-related information that helps local officials make good decisions – be it information about the effects of climate change, the options for increasing EE in agency facilities, different financing options available from the utilities and others. ILG underscores the fact that they provide resources and not tools, which they note is the domain of ICLEI. ILG notes that it has updated its sustainability best practices framework with the help of utility funding.

ILG, through the Beacon awards are able to gather examples of what cities and counties are doing to save energy and use this information that facilitate peer to peer learning. The Beacon Awards Program coordinates with another ILG program, the Sustainable Communities Learning Network. They have also organized three special Beacon Award meetings at the League of California Cities Annual Conferences.

ILG conducts marketing and outreach through direct contacts with elected and city staff and county officials at conferences, workshops, meetings of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties, and Councils of Government. ILG also writes articles for Western City Magazine and/or The County Association blog where they promote or reference various topics regarding the SEEC program (i.e., the Beacon program) or highlight examples of what local governments are doing or discuss energy efficiency/sustainability in general. ILG maintains close communication with the four utilities and the other NGOs on marketing and outreach in order to leverage its efforts and that of other members.

While ILG does not have empirical data on the effectiveness of outreach methods relative to each other, they believe that entities hearing about SEEC, the Beacon program, energy efficiency, sustainability and related topics, multiple times through a number of different channels will impact local government participation. ILG also believes they have been effective in their outreach to cities and counties due their existing credibility and trust among cities and counties.

### 6.3.2 Local Government Commission (LGC)

The LGC describes its role as one of a middleman between the utilities and local governments, providing education forums, technical assistance, peer-to-peer networking opportunities to advance local government capacity for producing CAPs and achieving the strategic plan goals.

The main deliverable for LGC is the statewide energy efficiency best practices forum, where LGC brings local governments together from across the state with a focus on key challenges they are facing and best practices from around the state that other local governments have been successful in implementing. They also provide technical training at the annual forum which has an attendance of 150 to 200 people every year.

Additionally, they conduct webinars that cover a range of energy efficiency topics, including CAP information and resources and also do local government networking meetings, which are focused on supporting local government utility partners. Through these, they facilitate peer-to-peer learning which has been effective at providing information from the utilities and leverages the peer resources from other local governments undertaking similar strategic plan goals.

LGC is a membership organization that provides inspiration, technical assistance, and networking to local elected officials and other dedicated community leaders. In addition to member outreach about SEEC resources, LGC reaches out to the more than 2,000 people on their listserv. Announcements and emails focus on items as: upcoming SEEC events, information on available resources; a news story or a best practice associated with the program; a local government success; and information on funding opportunities. While LGC aims to provide templates, educational conferences, local government partnership meetings, webinars, and meetings statewide, the organization also addresses one-on-one calls and invitations to speak from local governments, to the extent possible.

LGC notes that in-person meetings, to the extent they have the ability to do these, are the most effective as it enables local governments to build relationships with one another for LGC to build relationships with local governments and other key partners. According to LGC, being viewed as a trusted messenger to local governments makes them much more effective in delivering messages regarding SEEC and other CAP activities. LGC adds that they are able to maintain the relationship using online and phone calls once they build a foundation of trust using in-person meetings.



**6.4 IOU Comments and Response**

Embedded file contains responses to IOU comments and where to find these within the report.



Microsoft Excel  
97-2003 Worksheet



## 6.5 LG Survey

The following survey was administered using the web survey service provider, Survey Monkey. Questions denoted with an asterisk require a response. The main skip logic embedded in the survey pertained to the GHG inventory status and the CAP status response where each response on the spectrum was followed up with a probe for more detail regarding time begun, progress made, and anticipated time to completion as applicable. All respondents are asked about their awareness of resources and tools available to assist them in the process of developing a GHG inventory/CAP.

# IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

## Introduction & Identification

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has retained DNV KEMA as one of its contractors to conduct an evaluation of PG&E's Green Communities Program, the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) program, and SCE's integration of climate planning activities with their Energy Leader's program for the PY2010-2012.

It is in this context that we would like to talk with local government representatives such as yourself. Our main goal is to assess how your local utility and the SEEC program has facilitated your jurisdiction's climate action plan (CAP) process, learn about your experience using the resources made available to you and working with the utilities and non-profit organizations such as SEEC and ICLEI. Our goal is also to gain a better understanding of how you have implemented a CAP in your jurisdiction, particularly related to energy efficiency strategies.

We estimate that this online survey can be completed in 10-20 minutes. Your responses will be kept anonymous and will be reported only in the aggregate. DNV KEMA aims to complete this research in time for CPUC's reporting cycle in June 2013. To that end, we would appreciate your completing this survey by April 26, 2013.

To thank you for your participation, upon completion of the study, you will be entered into a drawing for carbon offsets of 150 mt CO<sub>2</sub>e from TerraPass. The winning jurisdiction can claim a 150 mt CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction in emissions, which is the equivalent of taking over 30 passenger vehicles off the road for one year. TerraPass is a carbon offset program that funds projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and generate clean, renewable energy. All surveys completed on or prior to May 2, 2013 will be included in the drawing for offsets.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this study.

### **\* 1. Please enter your name and details of your designation/role**

Name	<input type="text"/>
Title	<input type="text"/>
Department	<input type="text"/>
City	<input type="text"/>

## Energy projects & Energy Efficiency

AB 32 aims to reduce California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, representing a 25% reduction statewide. The next few questions are concerned with your city's energy reduction goals.

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

**2. What types of energy related projects are being considered by your jurisdiction? Please elaborate on those that apply and add other types of projects.**

1. Incentives	<input type="text"/>
2. Residential	<input type="text"/>
3. Commercial	<input type="text"/>
4. Municipal	<input type="text"/>
5. Education/outreach	<input type="text"/>
6. Codes and standards	<input type="text"/>
7. Renewables	<input type="text"/>
8	<input type="text"/>
9	<input type="text"/>
10	<input type="text"/>
11	<input type="text"/>
12	<input type="text"/>

**3. What percent of your total GHG reduction goals do you estimate will be met by ENERGY RELATED strategies?**

0-100

**4. What percent of your total GHG reduction goals do you estimate will be met by ENERGY EFFICIENCY strategies specifically?**

0-100

**5. How much energy will your jurisdiction save overall as a result of ENERGY EFFICIENCY projects by the year 2020? Elaborate where necessary.**

KW	<input type="text"/>
KWh	<input type="text"/>
Therms	<input type="text"/>
Other/comments	<input type="text"/>

**6. How do you track your jurisdiction's progress with respect to its energy efficiency projects?**

## Status of CAP

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

**\*7. Has your city begun planning/developing a CAP**

- Yes  
 No

### GHG Inventory Status

**\*8. Which option best describes the status of your GHG inventory?**

- City has not completed a baseline GHG inventory  
 City is in the process of developing a baseline GHG inventory  
 City has developed a baseline GHG inventory  
 City has developed a baseline GHG inventory and updated it recently

**9. Please list any barriers that you encountered/foresee encountering in the process of conducting a GHG inventory.**

### GHG Inventory Status

**10. Which year do you anticipate completing your GHG inventory?**

### GHG Inventory Status

**11. Which year did you update your baseline GHG inventory?**

### GHG Completion

**12. What year did you complete your initial baseline GHG inventory?**

### CAP Status

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

### \* 13. Which option best describes the status of your Climate Action Plan (CAP)?

- City is not in the process of planning/developing a CAP
- City has begun developing a CAP (in progress)
- City has completed developing a CAP
- City has developed and adopted a CAP
- City has developed, adopted, and begun implementation of a CAP

### CAP Development

#### 14. What year do you anticipate completing your CAP?

### CAP Implementation

#### 15. What year did your jurisdiction implement its CAP?

### CAP Adoption

#### 16. Which year did your jurisdiction adopt its CAP?

### CAP Completion

#### 17. What year did your jurisdiction complete its CAP?

### CAP Details

#### 18. Which categories of measures are addressed in your CAP? (Check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Use     | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxics and Health                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water          | <input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waste          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Outreach & Empowerment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |  |

Other (please specify)

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

### 19. Does your CAP include provisions for reducing GHGs using energy efficiency?

- Yes  
 No

## CAP & GHG Inventory Motivation

### 20. For what reasons did your city begin the GHG inventory/CAP process? (Check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AB32/compliance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce consumption     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potential for assistance from IOUs and non-profits (e.g.: SEEC, ICLEI) etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emissions reduction   | <input type="checkbox"/> Finite resources       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement of local environment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy independence    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency   | <input type="checkbox"/> It is/will be required |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waste reduction   |   |

Other (please specify)

## GHG Inventory Activity

### 21. Please choose the option that best describes your jurisdiction with respect to its GHG related activities from the list below:

- Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using our own resources and tools
- Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using tools developed by SEEC/ICLEI
- Used energy data from IOU along with other water, waste and transportation data and developed inventory internally using resources such as interns from IOU and tools developed by SEEC/ICLEI
- Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant subsidized by IOU
- Handed over energy data from IOU and other water, waste, and transportation data to an external consultant wholly funded by your city
- Other

Other (please specify)

## CAP/GHG Inventory Partnerships

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

### 22. Which utilities/non-profits/regional partnerships did you work with to develop your CAP and/or GHG inventory? (Check all that apply)

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PG&E                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Venture Silicon Valley (JVSV)            | <input type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLO County APCD) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SCE                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Kern County Energy Leader Partnership          | <input type="checkbox"/> San Mateo City/County Association of Governments (San Mateo C/CAG)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDGE                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Long Beach Energy Leader Partnership           | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Ana Energy Leader Partnership                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SoCal Gas                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles County Partnership                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Barbara Energy Leader Partnership                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ICLEI                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Orange County Cities Energy Leader Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Clara County Regional Climate Action Planning Program             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ILG                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Palm Desert Demonstration Partnership          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Business Council (SBC)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGC                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> QuEST  | <input type="checkbox"/> Simi Valley Energy Leader Partnership                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEEC                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Redlands Energy Leader Partnership             | <input type="checkbox"/> South Bay Energy Leader Partnership                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adelanto Energy Leader Partnership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA)          | <input type="checkbox"/> South Gate Energy Leader Partnership                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AMBAG                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ridgecrest Energy Leader Partnership           | <input type="checkbox"/> StopWaste.Org   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beaumont Energy Leader Partnership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverside County Partnership                   | <input type="checkbox"/> The Energy Alliance Association (TEAA)                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Energy Partnership             | <input type="checkbox"/> San Bernardino County Partnership              | <input type="checkbox"/> Ventura County Energy Leader Partnership                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Cities Energy Leader Partnership  | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel Valley Energy Leader Partnership   | <input type="checkbox"/> West Side Energy Leader Partnership                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Sierra Energy Leader Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel Valley Partnership                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Riverside Energy Leader Partnership                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Valley Center (GVC)                | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Valley Energy Leader Partnership   |  |

Other (please specify)

## Resources & Tools

### \*23. Are you aware of resources and tools provided through the IOU, SEEC, and ICLEI?

- Yes
- No

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

**24. If so, can you tell me about resources and tools you are aware of?**

1	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>
3	<input type="text"/>
4	<input type="text"/>
5	<input type="text"/>
6	<input type="text"/>
7	<input type="text"/>

### Resources & Tools II

**25. How would you rate your satisfaction with the tools and resources provided by SEEC?**

Extremely Dissatisfied      Extremely Satisfied

Other (please specify)

**26. Why do you say that?**

**27. How would you rate the tools and training provided by ICLEI?**

Extremely Dissatisfied      Extremely Satisfied

Other (please specify)

**28. Why do you say that?**

### Energy use data from IOU

**29. How satisfied are you with the process of acquiring energy consumption information from your IOU?**

Extremely Dissatisfied      Extremely Satisfied

Other (please specify)

**30. Why do you say that?**

## IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey

### CAP Best Practices

**31. Which of the following resources have been beneficial in promoting best practices in Climate Action Planning in your jurisdiction? (Check all that apply)**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beacon Award Winners  | <input type="checkbox"/> Utility provided reports | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government Partner meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> SEEC forums              | <input type="checkbox"/> ICLEI trainings                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEEC website          | <input type="checkbox"/> SEEC webinars            |  |

Other (please specify)

**32. Have the Beacon Award criteria had an influence on practices/targets you will/have included in your CAP?**

- Yes  
 No

### Continue CAP & GHG activities

**33. Hypothetically, if there were no longer utility funding/sponsorship/assistance, how affected would your jurisdiction's GHG inventory and/or CAP development and implementation be going forward?**

Extremely Unaffected      Extremely Affected

Comments

**34. You're almost finished. Do you have anything else to add regarding GHG inventories/CAPs?**

**Thank You!**

## **IOU-Supported CAP Activities Survey**

**35. Please enter your email address to be entered into a drawing for 150 mt CO<sub>2</sub>e of carbon offsets from TerraPass. The winning jurisdiction can claim a reduction in emissions for 150 mt CO<sub>2</sub>e, which is the equivalent of taking over 30 passenger vehicles off the road for one year. All surveys completed on or prior to May 2, 2013 will be included in the drawing for offsets.**

Thank you for your participation in this research.