



N O R T H E R N C A L I F O R N I A P O W E R A G E N C Y

NCPA 2021-2026 Strategic Plan

Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
Draft Strategic Initiatives and Goals



Jane Cirrincione

Process for Plan Review

- **Completed Review**
 - NCPA Utility Directors' review of strategic initiatives (8/13/2020 & 9/10/2020)
 - NCPA Federal Power Working Group (8/17/2020)
 - NCPA GHG/RPS Task Force (8/25/2020)
 - NCPA Customer Program Working Group (8/27/2020)
- **Action Requested Today:** Prepare final proposal and recommend approval of the Legislative & Regulatory Affairs initiatives in NCPA's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan to the NCPA Commission (9/22/2020)
- **Next Step:** NCPA Commission consideration of the full NCPA 2021-2026 Strategic Plan

L&R Strategic Initiatives

The Legislative & Regulatory Affairs team has two, high-level strategic initiatives as part of the agency-wide plan:

- Advocate; Protect agency and member assets and local decision-making authority through credible, solution-oriented leadership in state and federal legislative and regulatory policy arenas.
- Provide products and services that enhance the value that NCPA member utilities provide to their communities, including beneficial customer programs and communication of local accomplishments to stakeholders.

Under each initiative, we have worked with members to identify a number of more prescriptive and measurable goals.

Advocate; Protect agency and member assets and local decision-making authority through credible, solution-oriented leadership in state and federal legislative and regulatory policy arenas.

Compliance

Promote activities that control and/or reduce compliance costs, including but not limited to streamlining regulatory reporting requirements

Assure that regulatory policy is based on the letter and intent of the law, and is not subject to expansive interpretation.

Hydroelectric Issues

Protect NCPA Members from unwarranted Central Valley Project or CVP Improvement Act costs and reductions to the federal resource and continue strategies that advance and improve cost certainty and cost containment.

Promote the value of large hydroelectric generation as a key component of the state's carbon-neutrality goal and an eligible clean energy resource under any federal climate policy.

Advance hydropower relicensing reform to promote a timely and cost-effective process.

Obtain Special Use Permit (SUP) approval from the U.S. Forest Service to reduce costs for the hydroelectric sediment removal project, and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with necessary transportation for removal, and seek inclusion of sediment disposal sites in relicensing.

Advocate; Protect agency and member assets and local decision-making authority through credible, solution-oriented leadership in state and federal legislative and regulatory policy arenas.

Climate Programs

Influence development of climate policies at the regulatory agencies and in the State Legislature and Congress to prevent adverse financial, operational, and/or resource planning impacts on NCPA and its Members.

Shape development of future regulatory agency regulations or programs related to Renewables Portfolio Standard and carbon-neutral resources, Integrated Resource Plan, transportation and building electrification, wildfire policies, and energy efficiency provisions to protect local decision making.

Advocate for regulatory policies that support and prioritize carbon-neutral resources over zero-carbon resources.

Represent member interests in forums promoting transportation electrification, such as the California Electric Transportation Coalition and the Clean Fuel Reward program.

Minimize imposition of new mandates on NCPA Members.

Promote alignment of state and federal climate programs to avoid duplicative or inconsistent requirements.

Advocate; Protect agency and member assets and local decision-making authority through credible, solution-oriented leadership in state and federal legislative and regulatory policy arenas.

NCPA & Member Assets

Protect NCPA's investments in California and ensure federal climate and energy standards do not conflict with California's policies.

Advocate for policies supporting new incentive and investments—and providing financial assistance—in clean energy infrastructure, particularly hydrogen development and other emerging technologies of importance to the Agency.

Wildfires

Advocate for wildfire policies that reduce wildfire risk and protect NCPA and Members against adverse impacts to public power systems.

Build awareness among policymakers regarding the impacts of wildfires on generation facilities and climate goals, and advocate for additional and stable funding for fire prevention and suppression to protect these facilities

Advocate; Protect agency and member assets and local decision-making authority through credible, solution-oriented leadership in state and federal legislative and regulatory policy arenas.

Industry Leadership/Advancing NCPA as a Credible Source

Actively seek leadership roles in industry stakeholder coalitions, working groups, and other relevant organizations.

Access to Funding

Reduce costs for advanced clean technologies, including use of renewable hydrogen as a storage technology and biomass generation projects.

Advocate for Member access to federal and state funding that could be used to support Member programs or operations.

Advocate for flexibility to use current funding sources in a way that best meets Member needs.

Provide products and services that enhance the value that NCPA member utilities provide to their communities, including beneficial customer programs and communication of local accomplishments to stakeholders.

Provide targeted communication resources for member use in communicating about specific public policies and/or incidents affecting California's electric utilities.

Build member recognition by sharing member accomplishments with state and federal policymakers, stakeholders, and industry organizations, nominating member programs and employees for recognition, and highlighting member activities in NCPA social media, publications, and events

Collaborate with other utility industry partners, including CCAs, on joint solicitations when interests are aligned and partnership would help solicit responses and reduce costs

Provide direct member support in developing programs, policies, and agency actions.

Facilitate sharing of best practices via member working group discussions.

Seek third party vendor support, funded on a pass-through basis, to provide updates on grant opportunities and prepare Member applications for additional funding.