



DATE: February 9, 2026

TO: City of Lompoc Utility Commission

FROM: Michael Luther, P.E., Utility Director, City of Lompoc
Steven Valle, Electric Regulatory Compliance Coordinator, City of Lompoc

RE: Recent ERCC Activities

1. Electric Regulatory Compliance Coordinator (ERCC) – Recent Activities Since the Last Utility Commission Meeting

Since the last Utility Commission meeting, the Electric Regulatory Compliance Coordinator has advanced multiple regulatory, compliance, grant, legislative, and infrastructure initiatives while continuing to support customers and interdepartmental coordination.

Regulatory Compliance and Reporting:

Maintained compliance with state and federal requirements by consigning CARB greenhouse gas allowances, submitting the City's LCFS Q3 and CEC 1304B/1306A reports, reviewing SF₆ reporting documentation, and coordinating renewable energy certificate (REC) purchases to support Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) obligations. Participated in NCPA and CMUA task forces and committee meetings covering RPS/GHG updates, wildfire preparedness, physical security, legislative and regulatory matters, and CARB's proposed Cap-and-Invest regulatory package. Coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and Fleet staff regarding Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation compliance and related GHG allowance use. Attended Title 24 solar and battery storage standards trainings and other industry workshops to remain current on evolving requirements.

Legislative and Regulatory Monitoring:

Continued monitoring key policy developments affecting public power utilities. Notably, NCPA-sponsored Assembly Bill 34 advanced unanimously through the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee and the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. The bill would extend RPS eligibility for large federal hydropower beyond the current 2030 sunset, helping protect affordability for communities that rely on these resources by reducing the risk of unnecessary renewable procurement costs.

Additionally, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released a proposed update to the state's cap-and-invest program, including allowance allocation recommendations through 2035. While the proposal maintains the current methodology for the 2027–2030 compliance period, it introduces a new framework for 2031–2035 that may incorporate retail load growth and align compliance timelines with linked market programs. The ERCC is actively monitoring these

developments through NCPA engagement to evaluate potential impacts on the City's allowance allocation, compliance strategy, and long-term cost exposure.

Grant Administration and Major Projects:

Provided ongoing management and reporting for the OLDCC grant-funded Military Installation Readiness (MIR) project, including financial reconciliation, reimbursement requests, performance reports, and submission of a project timeline amendment. Participated in recurring project management meetings with SONRI, Converge Strategies, HDR, and OLDCC leadership, and coordinated planning for an upcoming electricity resilience tabletop exercise. Engaged with federal and regional partners to discuss IGSA needs and future funding opportunities.

Supported progress on the GLI stormwater basin project funded by the California Natural Resources Agency through administrative meetings and compliance check-ins with Water, Engineering, and EKI consultants. Explored bioretention and engineered wetlands concepts in preparation for a federal appropriations solicitation and met with Water Division staff regarding potential opportunities under WRDA 2026.

Transportation Electrification and Fleet Initiatives:

Advanced multiple electric vehicle infrastructure efforts by opening the bid, hosting the mandatory job walk, and responding to bidder questions for the 123 North H Street EV Charger Project, with the bid scheduled to close on Monday, February 9. Met with Lompoc Valley Medical Center to discuss a joint EV charger installation and coordinated with Fleet on HVIP funding opportunities and ACFR impacts to support long-term municipal fleet planning.

Energy Planning, Resilience, and Partnerships:

Represented the City at CMUA/NCPA Capitol Day in Sacramento, meeting with state lawmakers, CARB, and legislative offices to advocate for public power priorities. Participated in the ADC Installation Energy and Water Forum and engaged with the Community Environmental Council on disaster resilience strategies and potential funding for a community resilience hub. Reviewed a Pacific Northwest National Laboratory report on rural energy resilience and attended the IRWM quarterly meeting to monitor Proposition 4 funding opportunities. Continued involvement in the Lompoc/Vandenberg Community Partnership Program.

Solar, Interconnection, and Customer Support:

Finalized a solar interconnection agreement template for the River Terrace development, developed a solar information package for new homeowners, reviewed solar applications and plan submissions, and met with Electric Substation staff regarding metering requirements. Assisted residential customers with interconnection approvals, utility data requests, and solar policy questions while continuing to support Public Records Act requests.

Interdepartmental and External Coordination:

Collaborated with Community Development, Purchasing, Finance, Fleet, Water, Engineering, and the City Attorney's Office on housing, contracting, procurement, regulatory, and infrastructure matters. Retrieved and processed records for Public Records Act requests and supported load resource balance discussions with NCPA and Finance.

Additional Engagement and Organizational Support:

Maintained cross-departmental coordination responsibilities by meeting with Santa Barbara County Animal Services and participating in regional engagement events with state leadership. Supported bilingual resource discussions to improve public access to information and met with Assemblymember Hart's office regarding the City's Cultural Districts Program application.

2. Upcoming Priorities and Items on the Electric Regulatory Compliance Radar

WREGIS Solar Reporting:

The ERCC will continue to focus on implementing reporting of eligible solar generation to the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS). This effort will ensure that renewable attributes are properly certified and tracked, enabling the City to accurately apply renewable energy credits toward RPS compliance while maintaining audit-ready documentation and program transparency.

City-Lompoc Unified School District Solar Collaboration:

The ERCC is exploring potential joint solar project opportunities between the City and the Lompoc Unified School District. Early coordination is focused on identifying viable sites, evaluating load profiles, assessing funding or incentive opportunities, and determining whether a partnership structure could reduce energy costs while expanding local renewable generation capacity. The effort supports long-term sustainability goals and may provide mutual financial and resiliency benefits.

Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) Coordination:

Ongoing engagement with VSFB partners will continue to support regional energy resilience, infrastructure planning, and alignment with initiatives under the Military Installation Readiness grant-funded effort. Efforts include identifying projects that strengthen grid reliability, enhance mutual aid capabilities, and position the City for future defense-related funding opportunities while reinforcing the City's role as a critical community partner.

Lompoc Valley Medical Center EV Infrastructure Project:

The ERCC will continue to advance coordination with Lompoc Valley Medical Center on a proposed joint electric-vehicle charging project. Near-term work includes evaluating project scope, potential cost-sharing frameworks, infrastructure requirements, and available grant funding. The project is intended to expand public charging availability, support regional transportation electrification, and serve patients, employees, and visitors.

123 North H Street EV Charger Project:

With the bid closing on Monday, February 9, the ERCC will oversee the bid review process, support contractor selection, and coordinate next steps toward project award and implementation. This project represents a key component of the City's expanding charging network and broader electrification strategy.

The ERCC will continue prioritizing regulatory compliance, strategic energy planning, grant execution, and infrastructure development to support reliable service, cost stability, and the City's long-term utility objectives.