



America's Premier Competitive Power Company  
... Creating Power for a Sustainable Future



## **2023 FECM/NETL CARBON MANAGEMENT RESEARCH PROJECT REVIEW MEETING**

### **Sutter Decarbonization Project – Community Engagement**

August 30, 2023

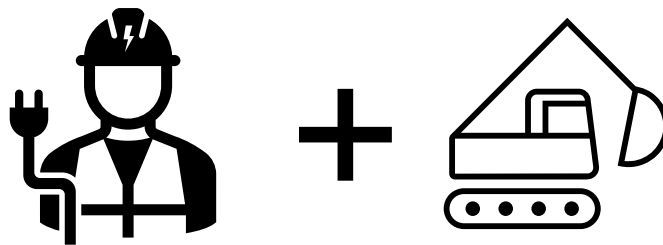


Calpine was founded in San Jose, California nearly 40 years ago on principles of sustainability

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## POWER GENERATION

Over 26,000 MW of natural gas, geothermal, battery storage & solar; best-in-class maintenance program



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## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Since 2000, constructed more MW in CA than any other entity. Significant battery storage and carbon capture projects in pipeline



# Why community engagement is important for a CCUS project

As California's energy transition happens, it's important CCUS projects engage with the community. Thoughtful collaboration and listening can lead to positive outcomes for both the project and the community.

## Know Your Audience



### The Sutter Community



< 100,000 people

Agricultural powerhouse

Punjabi and Hispanic influences

Trade-focused Education

Proximity to Sacramento

World's Smallest Mountain

Range: Sutter Buttes

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Sacramento, California, showing a wide river with a bridge crossing it. The city buildings and greenery are visible in the foreground and middle ground, with a hazy sky in the background.

# The Northern California Community

This is a Northern California project – Calpine is committed to building a clean energy workforce and providing clean electricity to a large community of Californians.

Our regional partners on this journey include, but are not limited to:

- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- California State Building Trades Council
- Los Medanos College
- Yuba College
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- University of California, Davis
- Stanford University



# Sutter Energy Center: Built on a History of Community and Labor Engagement

1

1995-1998

Community members engaged on Sutter project and identified levee improvements as a community priority

1998

2

Calpine and Labor set the stage for first project labor agreement ever executed for a California power facility, setting the standard

3

2001

SEC begins commercial operation-becoming the first air-cooled merchant CCGT in California

2005

4

The plant has first offtake agreements with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and Balancing Authority of Northern California

5

2009

Groundbreaking for the Starbend Levee project in partnership with the State under community benefits agreement

2021

6

Discussions with community leadership and scoping for CCS retrofit begin

7

Early 2022

Public outreach for CCUS project begins, hosting two public forums in both Sacramento and Yuba city

2023

8

SMUD votes to partner with Calpine on the CCS retrofit, now named the Sutter Decarbonization Project





# Proactive Engagement to Address Diverse Needs

- Calpine's believes in long-term proactive partnerships to build community rapport and has been a trusted member of the Sutter community for more than 20 years
- Calpine hosted over 45 meetings with the community
- Focused on a more targeted approach to Punjabi and Hispanic communities in an impactful way that resonates and brings those communities into the discussion
- We do this work in advance and throughout the permit process
- CEC is a national leader in promoting robust stakeholder engagement



# Challenges to Community Engagement for CCUS

Different audiences have different concerns.

What our partners assumed the community valued most:

- Equity
- Air pollution control
- Business growth

While Calpine still prioritizes these issues, the articulated community concerns instead focused on:

- Noise
- Water
- Impact to traffic
- Economic impact, including taxes
- Carbon storage permanence
- Job creation







# Integrating Community Feedback

## Water Use

Water is a critical resource in the community; the site will continue to be fully air-cooled

## Non-STEM Internships

In addition to traditional apprenticeships, local educational institutions requested non-STEM internships to expand opportunity

## Continued Meetings

We continue to host public small group meetings, as well as one-on-one meetings to address ongoing concerns in the community

1

2

3

4

5

## Column Height

Community feedback led to design specifications minimizing the height of the columns

## Community Liaison

An on-the-ground community member identifies and raises concerns before they become problems





# Building and Maintaining Relationships with the Community

**1** Be honest and transparent

Honesty and transparency is necessary to build and maintain trust

**2** Stay engaged and responsive

Regular communication and involvement is needed to maintain relationships

**3** Be proactive and take initiative

Identify and address CCUS-related community concerns or issues before they become major problems.

**4** Acknowledge this will take work and time

Community engagement requires extensive research, interfacing, and staffing. Ensure you have the resources early in the development process. Rural energy communities have been proven to be susceptible to research fatigue. As a result, indicators may seem lower than expected.





# What the Community is Saying...

**Karm Bains**  
Chair, Sutter County  
Board of Supervisors

"I have 100% confidence in Calpine and this project. Calpine has been operating in Sutter county for over 20 years. They have proven to be a great community partner."

**Heidi Sanborn**  
SMUD Board President, Director

"I look forward to our close working relationship with Calpine to make sure this goes as smoothly as it possibly can with all the smart people in the room that have helped bring this to us."

**Mark Mulliner**  
State Building & Construction Trades Council of California

"It is our obligation to work with Calpine and support these companies, because they are making the commitment to utilize our members."





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Thank You!

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