



Think Inside the Triangle™

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Section 54954.2 of the Government Code of the State of California, a regular meeting of the **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION** is hereby called for:

Date/Time: **Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**
(or as soon thereafter as possible)

Location: **City Hall Council Chambers**
333 Civic Center Plaza,
Tracy

THIS MEETING WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3 WHICH STATES THAT EVERY PUBLIC MEETING SHALL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON ANY ITEM, BEFORE OR DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM, HOWEVER, NO ACTION SHALL BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Items from the Audience - In accordance with Council Meeting Protocols and Rules of Procedure, adopted by Resolution No. 2019-240, and last amended by Resolution No. 2021-049, a five-minute maximum time limit per speaker will apply to all individuals speaking during "Items from the Audience/Public Comment". For non-agendized items, the Commission may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by individuals during public comment; ask questions for clarification; direct the individual to the appropriate staff member; or request that the matter be placed on a future agenda or that staff provide additional information to Commission.
5. Consent Items
 - 5.A Review and approve meeting minutes for February 22, 2024.
6. Actionable Items
 - 6.A Review and approve an update to the ESC 2024 workplan.
 - 6.B Review and Discuss Formation of Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) Ad Hoc Committees and Select and Approve Commissioners for these Committees
 - 6.C Select Commissioners and set time schedule for Earth Day booth attendance.
7. Informational Items
 - 7.A Presentation - Heirloom Carbon Capture Facility and Sustainability Practices
 - 7.B Presentation - SB379 Residential Solar Permit Reporting Compliance
8. Staff items (Verbal Report)
9. Items from the Commission – In accordance with Parliamentary Procedures, a commissioner who wishes to introduce an item to be considered must make a motion, obtain a second, and the Chair must call the vote. A majority vote is required for the motion to pass.
10. Adjournment

AGENDA POSTED: March 25, 2024

The City of Tracy complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes all reasonable accommodations for the disabled to participate in public meetings. Persons requiring assistance or auxiliary aids in order to participate should call City Hall at (209) 831-6000 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Any materials distributed to the Environmental Sustainability Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall located at 333 Civic Center Plaza, Tracy, during normal business hours.

Full copy of the agenda can be found at the Tracy Library as well on the City's Website:

[Environmental Sustainability Commission | City of Tracy, CA](#)



**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 22, 2024
7:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sese at 7:04 PM.

2. ROLL CALL:

a. Present: Acosta, Damasco, Sese, Wahhab, Wood

b. Absent: Shoaito

c. Staff Present: Brian MacDonald, Interim Operations and Utilities Director
Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director of Utilities
Genevieve Federighi, Associate Planner
Scott Claar, Senior Planner
Connie Lopes, Management Analyst

d. Recorded by: Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Kahlon.

4. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Dotty Nygard informed about an upcoming 2024 Transportation Conference on February 29 at the Port of Stockton and Tracy Earth Day on April 27.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

5.A REVIEW AND APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 26, 2023

Vice Chair Damasco requested to pull item 5.A, stated he has no further issues and moved to approve.

ACTION: Motion was made by Vice Chair Damasco to approve item 5.A and was seconded by Commissioner Wahhab. All in favor, passed and so ordered. (6,0,0)

5.B REVIEW AND APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 25, 2024

5.C REVIEW AND APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2024

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve items 5.B and 5.C and seconded by Vice Chair Damasco. All in favor, passed and so ordered. (6,0,0)

6. ACTIONABLE ITEMS

6.A REVIEW AND APPROVE AN UPDATE TO THE ESC 2024 WORKPLAN

Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director of Utilities provided the staff report.

Public comment: None

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner comments and questions followed with staff providing responses.

Commissioners requested the following updates, requests, and changes to the 2024 Work Plan:

1. Staff to bring back activities/events occurring within the City in order for ESC to nominate commissioners to attend.
2. Research funding for Commissioners to attend workshops
3. Staff provide initiatives that City is currently working on regarding Environmental Sustainability

Interim Public Works Director, Brian MacDonald provided clarification on how and when Commissioners could attend conferences/seminars with City staff.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chair Sese to approve the requests related to the 2024 ESC Work Plan and was seconded by Commissioner Wood. All in favor; passed and so ordered. (6,0,0)

Approve – Sese, Wood, Acosta, Damasco, Kahlon, Wahhab
Oppose - None
Abstain - None

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7.A PRESENTATION – SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN (SAP)

Genevieve Federighi, Associate Planner provided the staff report.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner comments and questions followed.

Commissioner Kahlon recommended forming an Ad Hoc committee to review the SAP.

Staff answered questions and provided guidance. Added to agenda for March 28 meeting.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chair Sese to accept a report on the 2011 Sustainability Action Plan and Vice Chair Damasco seconded. All in favor, passed and so ordered. (6,0,0)

Approve - Sese, Damasco, Kahlon, Wahhab, Wood
Oppose - None
Abstain - None

7.B PRESENTATION – SB1383 JURISDICTIONAL FOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

Staff report presented by Connie Lopes, Management Analyst II.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner comments and questions followed and were addressed by staff.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chair Sese and seconded by Commissioner Wahhab to accept the informational report on SB1383. All in favor, passed and so ordered. (5,0,0)

Approve - Sese, Wahhab, Damasco, Kahlon, Wood

Oppose - None

Abstain - None

8. STAFF ITEMS

None.

9. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Wood requested that a discussion regarding a booth for the Earth Day Event be added to the March 28 agenda.

Staff addressed questions from commissioners regarding logistics, opportunities, etc.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Time: 8:43 P.M.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chair Sese and seconded by Commissioner Wood to adjourn. Roll call found all in favor; passed and so ordered. (5,0,0)

Approve – Sese, Wood, Damasco, Kahlon, Wahhab

Oppose - None

Abstain - None

CITY OF TRACY
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 28, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 6.A

REQUEST

STAFF REQUESTS THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION REVIEW AND APPROVE AN UPDATE TO THE 2024 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION WORKPLAN WITH ACTION ITEMS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The commission and public make recommendations each meeting that are moved forward and approved for submission to the Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) annual workplan. This item requests that the ESC review and approve the updates to the ESC workplan from the February 22, 2024, ESC meeting.

DISCUSSION

During the February 22, 2024, Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) meeting, there was discussion and comment from the Commission regarding various topics. Three items under Item 6.A and one item under Item 7.A were requested to update the ESC 2024 Workplan with motions favorably passed to include the following:

- Sustainability Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee selections
- Identify potential funding options for Commissioners to attend various educational workshops, seminars, and conferences.
- Informational item from staff identifying the various events occurring within the City for consideration of attendance by Commissioners.
- Informational item on initiatives that the City is currently working on regarding Environmental Sustainability.

The first bulleted item regarding the SAP Ad Hoc Committees was added to tonight's agenda under Item 6.B.

The To Be Scheduled (TBS) table was updated to show the second through fourth bulleted items above as they will require staff time to prepare.

The presentation from the Parks Department on the Multi-Generational Recreation Center and their sustainable practices that was scheduled for tonight's meeting has been moved to June 27, 2024, until the construction award has occurred.

RECOMMENDATION

The Environmental Sustainability Commission review and approve an update to the 2024 Environmental Sustainability Commission workplan with action items from prior meetings.

Agenda Item 6.A
February 22, 2024

Prepared by: Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director of Utilities
Reviewed by: Brian MacDonald, Interim Director of Operations and Utilities
Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

ATTACHMENT

2024 Environmental Sustainability Commission Workplan

Agenda Item 6.A

MEETING SCHEDULED DATE	DISCUSSION ITEMS	COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITY RELATION	TASKS/ACTION	ASSIGNMENT / SUBCOMMITTEE	TIMELINE	STATUS
MARCH 28, 2024	ESC WORKPLAN FOR CY 2024	Good Governance	Action - Review and Approve	ESC	monthly	on-going
	SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN - AD HOC COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND SELECTION	Good Governance	Action - Review, Discuss, Select, and Approve	ESC	One-Time	on-going
	HEIRLOOM - CARBON CAPTURE FACILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY	Quality of Life	Informational Item	HEIRLOOM - Christian	One-Time	
	SB379 RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PERMIT REPORTING COMPLIANCE.	Quality of Life	Informational Item	Building Permit Division	One-Time	
APRIL 25, 2024	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND SWPPP OVERVIEW	Quality of Life Good Governance	Informational Item	Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand/Tasha Cheney	One-Time	
	ESC WORKPLAN FOR CY 2024	Good Governance	Action - Review and Approve	ESC	monthly	on-going
MAY 23, 2024						
	ESC WORKPLAN FOR CY 2024	Good Governance	Action - Review and Approve	ESC	monthly	on-going
JUNE 27, 2024	ESC WORKPLAN FOR CY 2024	Good Governance	Action - Review and Approve	ESC	monthly	on-going
	MULTI-GENERATIONAL RECREATION CENTER - SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	Quality of Life Good Governance	Informational Item	Richard Joaquin	One-Time	

CITY OF TRACY
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 28, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 6.B

REQUEST

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION 1) REVIEW AND DISCUSS FORMATION OF AD HOC COMMITTEES RELATED TO THE 2011 SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN; AND 2) SELECT AND APPROVE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE AD HOC COMMITTEES WITH THEIR ASSIGNED TASKS.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the February 22, 2024, Environmental Sustainability Commission meeting, under Item 7.A, Commissioner Kahlon requested that Ad Hoc Committees be formed to review and discuss the 2011 Sustainability Action Plan (SAP). This item requests that Commissioners discuss the formation of Ad Hoc Committees to review the SAP and assign Commissioners to serve on those Committees.

DISCUSSION

During the February 22, 2024, Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) meeting, there was discussion and comment from the Commission under Item 7.A regarding a presentation on the 2011 Sustainability Action Plan. The Commission discussed the formation of Ad Hoc Committees to review sections of the SAP, identify roles and responsibilities of those committees, and select Commissioners to serve on them. These Committees would meet outside the normal scheduled ESC meetings and provide updates and suggestions by scheduling the item on the workplan updates.

RECOMMENDATION

The Environmental Sustainability Commission 1) Review and Discuss Formation of Ad Hoc Committees related to the 2011 Sustainability Action Plan; and 2) Select and Approve Commissioners for the Ad Hoc Committees with assigned tasks.

Prepared by: Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director of Utilities

Reviewed by: Brian MacDonald, Interim Director of Operations and Utilities
Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

CITY OF TRACY
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 28, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 6.C

REQUEST

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION SELECT AND APPROVE
COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE AT THE EARTH DAY EVENT THAT INCLUDES A
TIME SCHEDULE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the February 22, 2024, Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) meeting, under Item 9 Items form Commissioners, Commissioner Wood requested that an item be place on the March 28th ESC Workplan to discuss Commissioner attendance at the Earth Day event scheduled for April 27, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This item requests that Commissioners discuss and select Commissioners and their time schedules for approval by the Commission.

DISCUSSION

During the February 22, 2024, Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) meeting, there was discussion and comment from the Commission under Item 9 regarding attendance by the Commission at the various events held in Tracy. Commissioner Wood asked that this item be brought back to discuss and make selections of Commissioners and time schedules for the day of the event. As a part of the discussion, Interim Director of Public Works, Brian MacDonald clarified that generally, Commissioners do not have their own booths, instead they participate in a City booth or the booth of the Department coordinating the Commission. The Utilities Division has a booth at this event and Commissioners are invited to share that booth with them.

RECOMMENDATION

The Environmental Sustainability Commission select and approve Commissioner attendance at the Earth Day Event that includes a time schedule

Prepared by: Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director of Utilities

Reviewed by: Brian MacDonald, Interim Director of Public Works
Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

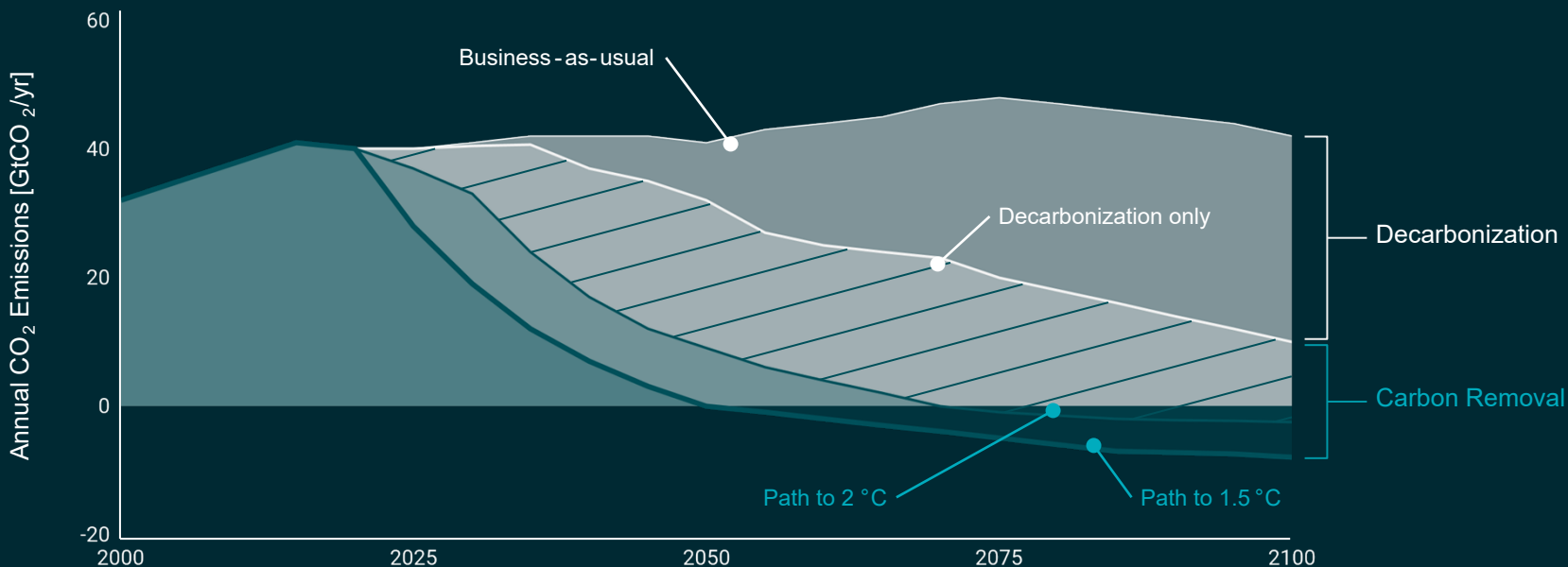


Heirloom

Direct Air Capture via Carbon Mineralization

Removing 1B tons of CO₂ per year from the atmosphere by 2035

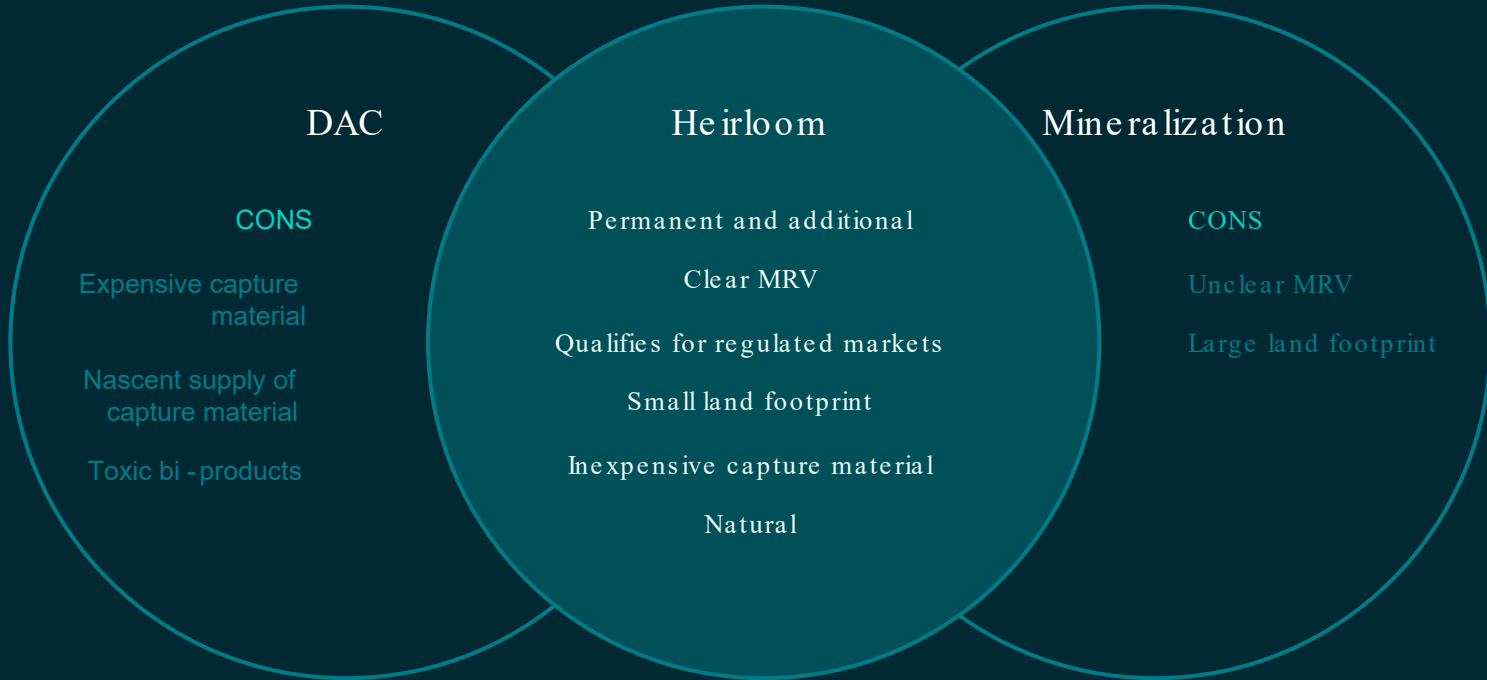
The world requires permanent carbon removal to stay below 2°C





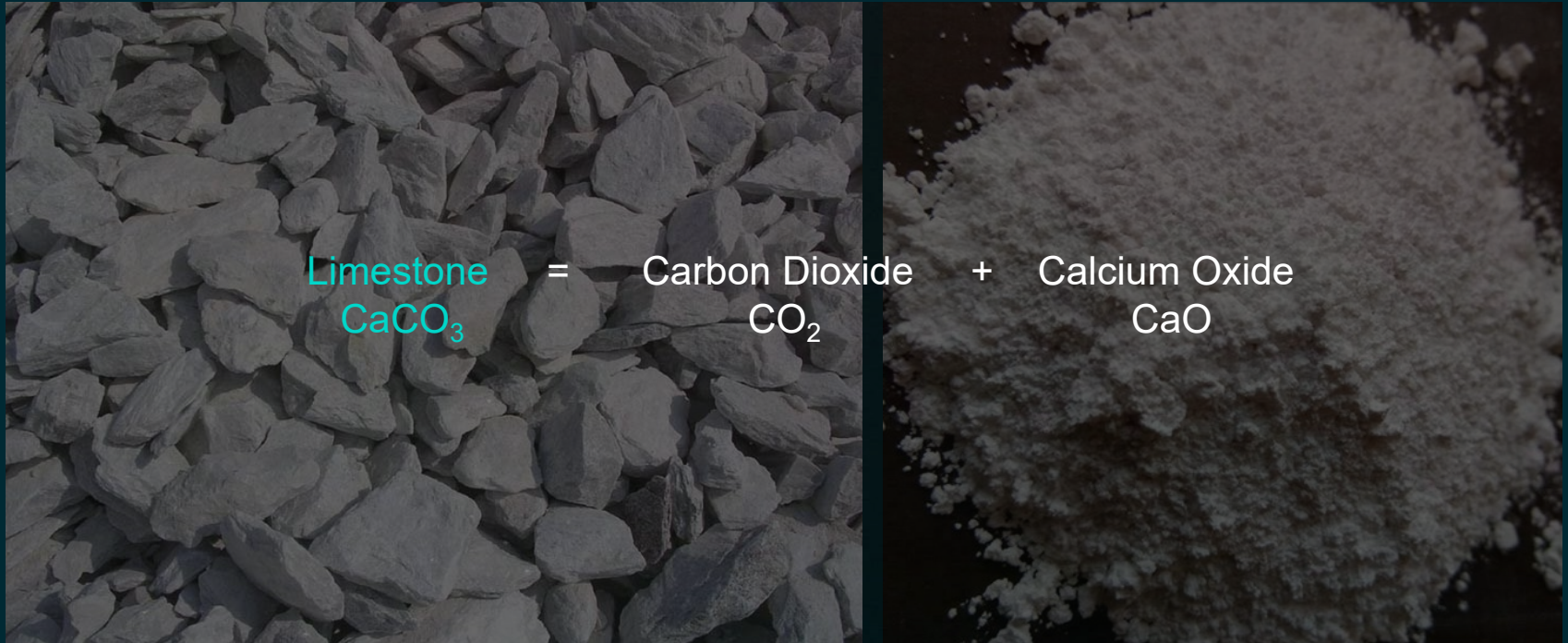
A unique, hybridized approach

By combining Direct Air Capture and Carbon Mineralization ,
Heirloom harnesses the best of both approaches



How it works

Use limestone to pull CO₂ from the atmosphere at low -cost

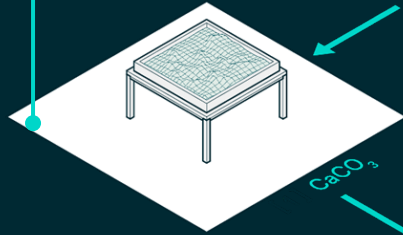


Our technology

The Heirloom Looping Process

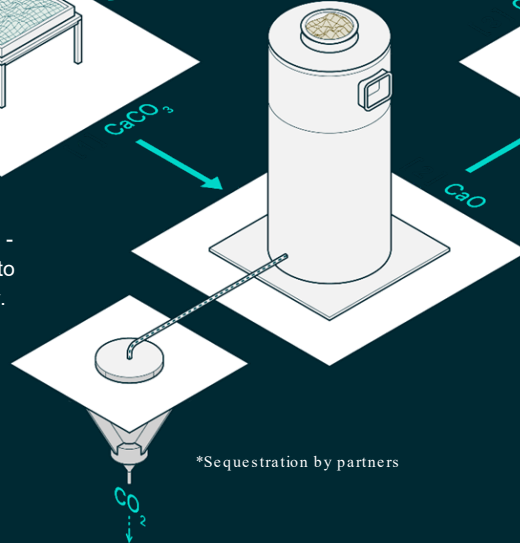
STEP 1

Crushed calcium carbonate [CaCO_3] or limestone is evenly spread across a tray.



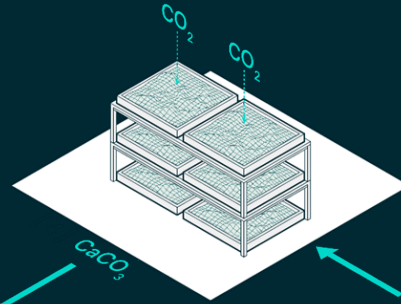
STEP 2

The limestone is heated by a renewable - powered electric kiln which separates it into CO_2 gas and calcium oxide [CaO] powder. The CO_2 is extracted and sequestered permanently.*



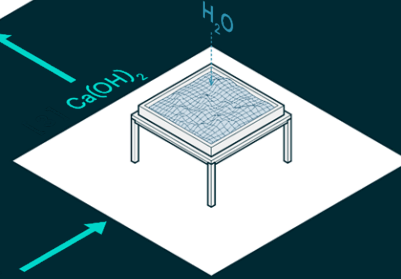
STEP 4

The calcium hydroxide is spread onto stacked trays to capture CO_2 from the air for 3 days. This process converts it back to limestone, and the entire cycle begins again.



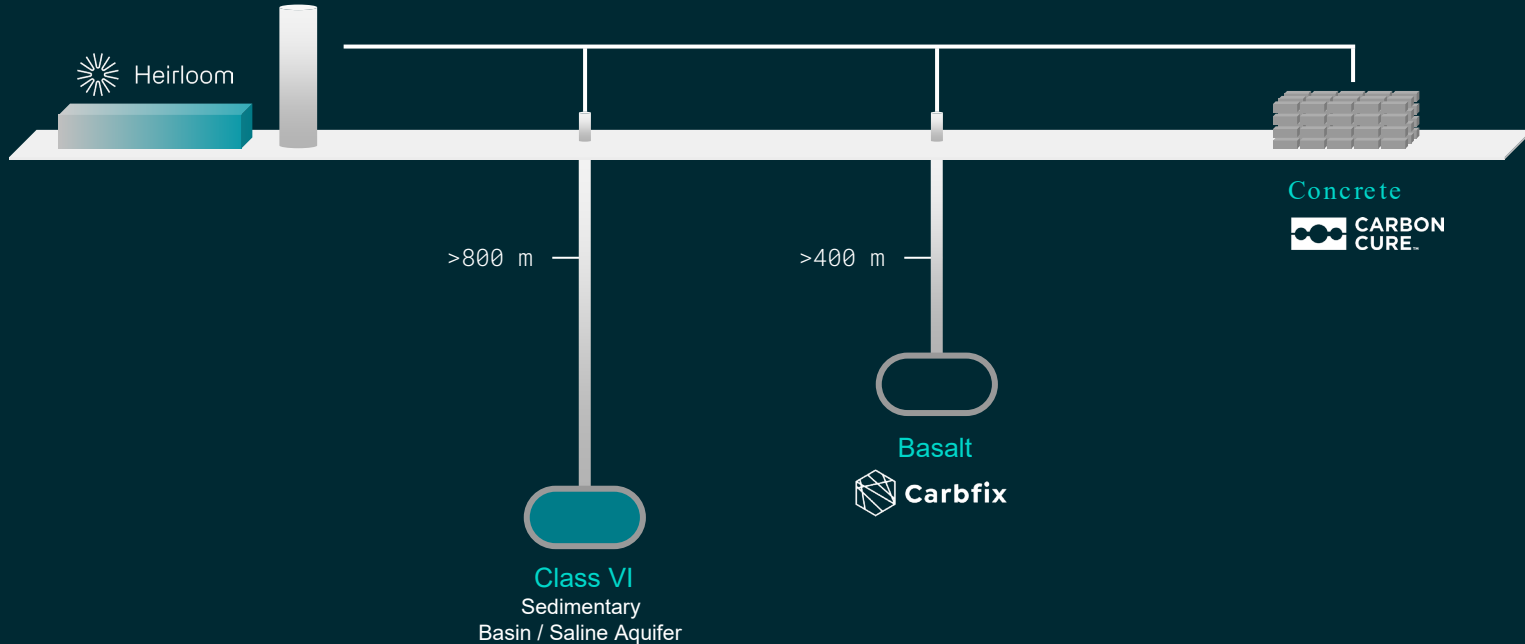
STEP 3

The calcium oxide is hydrated with water to form calcium hydroxide [Ca(OH)_2].



*Sequestration by partners

We will store CO₂ in permanent underground wells and in concrete



Our traction

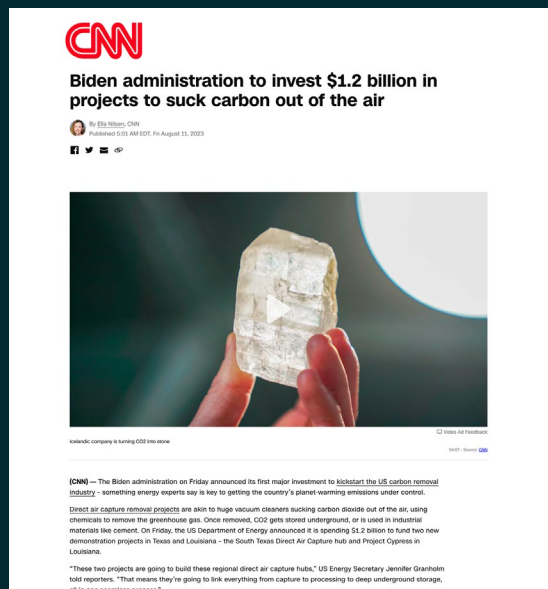
The largest voluntary buyers are our customers



Southwest Louisiana

Aug 2023: Heirloom's DAC Hub, Project Cypress in LA, was just one of two hubs granted up to \$600 million in matching funding from the US Department of Energy.

Funding of this size is a world-first and will enable us to build the world's largest DAC facility




CNN

Biden administration to invest \$1.2 billion in projects to suck carbon out of the air

By Elyse Hines, CNN
Published 5:01 AM EDT, Fri August 11, 2023

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kinetics company is turning CO2 into stone

© 2023 CNN

CNN — The Biden administration on Friday announced its first major investment to kickstart the US carbon removal industry — something energy experts say is key to getting the country's shared warming emissions under control.

Direct air capture removal projects are able to suck carbon out of the air using chemicals to remove the greenhouse gas. Once removed, CO2 gets stored underground, or is used in industrial materials like cement. On Friday, the US Department of Energy announced it is spending \$1.2 billion to fund two new demonstration projects in Texas and Louisiana — the South Texas Direct Air Capture hub and Project Cypress in Louisiana.

"These two projects are going to build these regional direct air capture hubs," US Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm told reporters. "That means they're going to link everything from capture to processing to deep underground storage."



Bloomberg

How Biden's Regional Carbon Cleanup Hubs Could Spur Innovation

The direct air capture industry will likely be crucial for addressing climate change, and new hubs in Louisiana and Texas could help unlock its potential.



A small scale model of the DAC facility at the Occidental Petroleum and IPPointFive Direct Air Capture (DAC) plant in Ector County, Texas. Photographer: Jordan Vonderhaar/Bloomberg

By **Brian Kahn**
August 13, 2023 at 4:00 AM PDT



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Department of Energy

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Up To \$1.2 Billion For Nation's First Direct Air Capture Demonstrations in Texas and Louisiana

AUGUST 11, 2023

Energy.gov

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Up To \$1.2 Billion For Nation's First Direct Air Capture Demonstrations in Texas and Louisiana

President Biden's Investing in America Agenda Will Fund Projects to Kickstart Critical New Industry, Remove Historic Climate-Harming Carbon Emissions Out of the Air, and Create 4,800 Good-Paying Jobs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As part of President Biden's investing in America agenda, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced up to \$1.2 billion to advance the development of two commercial-scale direct air capture facilities in Texas and Louisiana. These projects—the first of this scale in the United States—represent the initial selections from the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-funded Regional Direct Air Capture (DAC) Hubs program, which aims to kickstart a nationwide network of large-scale carbon removal sites to address legacy carbon dioxide pollution and complement rapid emissions reductions. These emissions are already in the atmosphere, fueling climate change and extreme weather and jeopardizing public health and ecosystems across the globe. The Hubs are expected to ensure meaningful community and labor engagement and contribute to the President's Justice40 Initiative. Together, these projects are expected to remove more than 2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions each year from the atmosphere—an amount equivalent to the annual emissions from roughly 445,000 gasoline-powered cars—and create 4,800 good-paying jobs in Texas and Louisiana.

Today's announcement will be the world's largest investment in engineered carbon removal in history and each Hub will eventually remove more than 250 times more carbon dioxide than the largest DAC facility currently operating. Their development will help inform future public and private sector investments and jumpstart a new industry critical to addressing the climate crisis on a global scale—highlighting how Bidenomics is driving a manufacturing boom that is delivering new economic opportunities, positioning America to be a global leader in the industries of the future, and accelerating efforts to meet the President's goal of a net-zero economy by 2050.

Sep 2023: Heirloom signed the largest carbon removal deal to date with Microsoft

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Microsoft Will Use Carbon-Absorbing Rocks to Meet Climate Goals

Deal with Heirloom Carbon is one of largest ever purchases of carbon-removal credits

By Amrith Ramkumar [Follow](#)
Sept. 7, 2023 5:30 am ET



Equipment holding trays of limestone is part of a carbon-removal process developed by Heirloom Carbon. PHOTO: NATHAN FRANDINO/REUTERS

Most of the world's efforts to remove carbon from the atmosphere use [giant, vacuum-like devices](#) that suck in air and isolate the carbon. [Microsoft MSFT 1.86%](#) ▲ is funding a new approach that uses crushed-up limestone to achieve the same result.

The tech company said Thursday it agreed to buy credits from startup Heirloom Carbon for the removal of up to 315,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide over 10 years. That would amount to a purchase commitment of at least \$200 million based on market prices and would offset the equivalent of the annual emissions of around 70,000 gasoline-powered cars.

The deal will help Microsoft neutralize its carbon emissions and is one of the largest ever purchases of [carbon-removal credits](#).

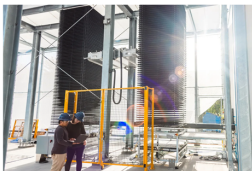
It also shows how carbon removal is quickly [becoming a major industry](#) even as the technologies are still developing. Business leaders such as Microsoft and JPMorgan Chase and governments are funding a range of approaches, including

The Verge

The Verge / Tech / Reviews / Science / Entertainment

CLIMATE / ENVIRONMENT / SCIENCE

Microsoft is the first customer for the Biden administration's carbon removal hubs



Heirloom's technology filters CO2 out of the air. Image: Heirloom

Microsoft struck a deal with the startup Heirloom, which is building one of the first hubs for CO2-sucking industrial plants in the US.

By Justin Collins, a science reporter covering the environment, climate, and energy beats at The Verge. She is also the host of the Red & High Tech podcast.

Aug 11, 2023, 2:02 PM PDT | 1218 Comments | 18 Likes

If you are reading from a mobile device, you should see a navigation bar at the bottom.

Microsoft is helping to fund one of the US's first hubs for pulling planet-heating carbon dioxide out of the air. It struck a deal with California-based startup Heirloom, which says it will capture up to 315,000 metric tons of CO2 for Microsoft over the next decade or so.

The partnership fits into Microsoft's climate goal of becoming carbon negative by 2030, meaning it plans to remove more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than it emits as pollution. The company has made other deals with startups breaking ground on new industrial facilities that filter CO2 out of the air, called direct air capture (DAC) plants. Now, it's also involved in the Biden administration's push to build big hubs for DAC plants across the US.

The partnership fits into Microsoft's climate goal of becoming carbon negative by 2030

Heirloom says it will capture CO2 for Microsoft at two new commercial facilities in the US, including one it plans to build in Louisiana after being selected for up to \$600 million in funding from the Department of Energy (DOE). The Louisiana project, called Cypress, was one of two locations the DOE picked to fund the first hubs for DAC plants in the US.

The emerging technology is still prohibitively expensive, and clustering the plants in hubs is supposed to cut down costs since they'll be able to share infrastructure like pipelines to move captured greenhouse gases and underground wells to store them. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed in 2021 includes \$3.5 billion to develop at least four DAC hubs across the US.

Related /

- Controversial carbon removal technology just got \$1.2 billion from the Biden administration
- In a first, climate tech companies say their trapped atmospheric CO2 is concrete
- Microsoft's air supply chain is holding back its climate ambitions

In Louisiana, Heirloom is partnering with another DAC company called Climeworks, which has already captured CO2 for Microsoft at its facility in Iceland. Microsoft also inked a similar deal in March with CarbonCapture, another California-based startup developing technology to take CO2 out of the atmosphere.

The Rabbit R1 is an AI-powered gadget that can use your apps for you

CES 2024: all the TVs, laptops, smart home gear, and more from the show floor

Honda debuts new global EV series, Honda Zero, coming in 2029

Humane lays off 4 percent of employees before releasing its AI Pin

How Microsoft found a potential new battery material using AI

BUSINESS NEWS

JUST STARTUP

Microsoft is paying \$20 million to carbon-capture 0.25% of its annual CO2 emissions

Microsoft agreed to purchase up to 315,000 metric tons of CO2 removal over a decade with Heirloom, a carbon capture startup

By Ananya Bhattacharya | Published September 8, 2023



Daily steps toward a lofty climate goal. Photo: Rami Arntchay (Reuters)

Microsoft announced a deal yesterday (Sep. 7) to purchase up to 315,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide removal over the next ten years. The deal is a bet not only on carbon capture, a polarizing technology, but also on Heirloom, a California startup that captures CO2 directly from the air.

Heirloom "harnesses the natural properties of limestone" to "capture CO2 pollution from the atmosphere and permanently store it in a range of ways, including in concrete," a press release stated. [Heirloom claims that its technology](#) accelerates limestone's natural ability to absorb CO2 from the air "from years to days."

For Microsoft, 315,000 tons represents just a drop in the ocean when it comes to fulfilling its ambition of becoming carbon negative by 2030—at which point it hopes to remove more CO2 from the air than it produces. (At present, Microsoft emits the equivalent of 13 million tons of CO2 every year.) For Heirloom and the carbon capture industry at large, though, Microsoft's investment could be a game-changer.

In addition to the intangible but invaluable vote of confidence, Microsoft's multi-year investment equips Heirloom—which has the only Direct Air Capture (DAC) facility in North America—with funding and stability to "finance...our rapid scale-up, fueling exponential growth like what we've seen in the renewable energy industry," said Shasthank Samala, the CEO of Heirloom.

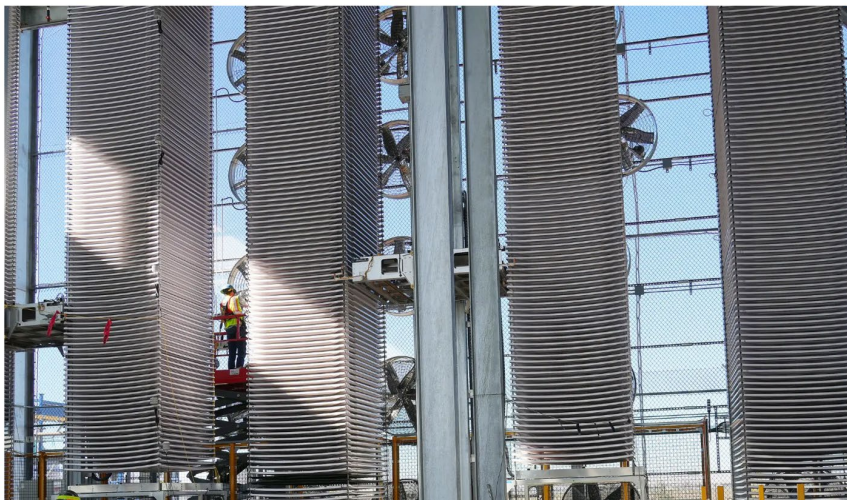
Nov 2023: America's First Commercial Direct Air Capture Facility

The New York Times

CLIMATE | In a U.S. First, a Commercial Plant Starts Pulling Carbon From the Air

In a U.S. First, a Commercial Plant Starts Pulling Carbon From the Air

The technique is expensive but it could help fight climate change. Backers hope fast growth can bring down costs.



Bloomberg

Green | Cleaner Tech

The First Commercial Carbon-Sucking Facility in the US Opens in California

The plant is capable of removing 1,000 tons of CO₂ a year. It's a small but notable milestone in the quest to pull carbon from the air and reach net zero.

POLITICO

Small step for climate, giant leap for DAC

By CORBIN HIAR and ALEX NIEVES | 11/09/2023 09:00 PM EST

With help from Camille von Kaenel and Blanca Begert

CANARY MEDIA

America's first commercial direct air capture plant just got going



By Maria Gallucci
9 November 2023

Join us
in the fight against
climate change

Questions?



CITY OF TRACY
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 28, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 7.B

REQUEST

**STAFF REQUESTS THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
ACCEPT AN INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON SENATE BILL (SB) 379 RESIDENTIAL
SOLAR PERMIT REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On November 27, 2023, a motion was favorably passed to add an informational item related to Senate Bill (SB) 379 to the Commission's workplan. Informational only items will be presented to the Commission as they relate to the Council's Strategic Priorities and the Commission's Roles and Responsibilities. Staff is requesting that the Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) accept an informational report on SB379 Residential Solar Permit Reporting Compliance.

DISCUSSION

During the November 27, 2023, ESC meeting, there was discussion and comment from both the Commission and the public regarding various topics. One of those topics was SB379 regarding the City's compliance with Residential Solar Permit reporting. Commission requested that staff bring back information on the City's compliance with this bill. This item will discuss the City's current compliance status as informed by Chris Morgan, Building Official, Building Division.

BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 379 (Wiener, 2022) requires most California cities and counties to implement an online, automated permitting platform that verifies code compliance and issues permits in real time or allows the city, county, or city and county to issue permits in real time for a residential solar energy system, as defined, that is no larger than 38.4 kilowatts alternating current nameplate rating and a residential energy storage system, as defined, paired with a residential solar energy system that is no larger than 38.4 kilowatts alternating current nameplate rating. A city, county, or city and county with a population of greater than 50,000 that is not exempt shall satisfy the requirements by September 30, 2023. The City of Tracy falls into this category as it is not exempt.

As defined in SB 379, a city, county, or city and county shall report to the Energy Commission when it is in compliance with this legislation. Additionally, a city, county, or city and county shall report annually to the Energy Commission within one year of implementing an online, automated solar permitting system. This annual reporting requirement shall become inoperative on June 30, 2034.

Required reporting fields are summarized below:

- Name of reporting party (city, county, or city and county)
- Reporting year (date range if partial calendar year)
- [Latest estimated population of reporting entity](#)
- Total number of permits issued for all residential solar energy systems
 - Subset of total permits issued for residential solar energy systems through an online, automated permitting platform that complies with SB 379.
- Total number of permits issued for all residential energy storage systems paired with residential solar energy systems
 - Subset of total permits issued for residential energy storage systems paired with residential solar energy systems through an online, automated permitting platform that complies with SB 379.

The data submission portal will also collect the name and contact information of the authorized representative for verification or in case follow-up is needed.

ANALYSIS

Chris Morgan, Building Official, informed that the City of Tracy is not able to fully comply with the requirements of SB379 as the Trak It software utilized by the City does not fully automate permitting. However, staff identified that 160 residential permits were issued and 123 of those were finalized during the reporting period. This has/will be reported to the state through the data submission portal. Staff is researching software and/or upgrades to the existing software that will allow for the automated permitting as required under this bill.

RECOMMENDATION

The Environmental Sustainability Commission accept an informational report on Senate Bill (SB) 379 Residential Solar Permitting Reporting Compliance

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