

**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

RESOLUTION NO. 3-2023

ABSTRACT

A resolution celebrating the accomplishments of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) for its first ten years of operation.

Further discussion of this subject is contained in the ABAG Executive Board Summary Sheet dated January 19, 2023.

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RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE BAY AREA REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK FOR TEN YEARS OF OPERATION

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a collaboration between the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties that began in 2013 has implemented a comprehensive portfolio of resource efficiency programs, focusing on energy, water and greenhouse gas emission reductions; and

WHEREAS, BayREN provides significant climate related services, including promoting healthy and energy-efficient buildings for single family and multifamily residents, owners of small- and medium-sized commercial properties; assisting local governments through training and mentoring programs; education to realtors on the benefits of a green and healthy home and increasing the green workforce; and reducing carbon emissions through regional activities and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, through rebates, direct funding and technical assistance to help renters, property and business owners, realtors and local governments improve buildings' energy efficiency and reduce their carbon footprints, BayREN's programs also build the green workforce and advance the state's goals of doubling energy efficiency in existing buildings by 2030, reducing emissions from existing buildings by at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, achieving 100 percent renewable and zero-carbon retail electricity, and becoming entirely carbon neutral by 2045; and

WHEREAS, the BayREN coalition includes a representative agency from each of the nine Bay Area counties and each county is able to leverage regional resources that allow its residents, businesses, and local government staff to receive the benefits of BayREN's programs, while also contributing significantly to governance decisions that determine how and where the programs are marketed within each jurisdiction. These actions aid in building local capacity and serving the unique needs of each jurisdiction's residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, BayREN has saved the Bay Area the amount of energy used by 47,357 homes or 52,442 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles per year, provided more than \$66 million in incentive payments to residents, avoided 156 million tons of carbon emissions, upgraded 63,866 housing units and provided \$85.6 million in lifetime utility bill savings, all while creating 12,777 new green energy jobs; and

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WHEREAS, , the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in 2019 recognized the vast successes of BayREN during its first five years by removing its “pilot” designation and making BayREN a permanent energy efficiency program administrator; and,

WHEREAS, BayREN in 2019 became the first energy efficiency program administrator in California to offer electrification pathways and incentives in its single family and (nationally recognized) multifamily programs; and,

WHEREAS, in the coming years, BayREN intends to build on its work by addressing systemic barriers to energy efficiency and electrification, especially for, and in collaboration with, equity priority communities and those who disproportionately face energy burdens, climate impacts and are underrepresented in policy and decision-making.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments hereby congratulates the Bay Area Regional Energy Network on the occasion of its ten years of operations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Board acknowledges BayREN’s accomplishments to date in energy and water conservation and greenhouse gas emission reductions are extraordinary; that Bay Area homeowners, renters, business owners, realtors and local governments all benefit from BayREN programs, that the Bay Area and the state both can look with a sense of accomplishment at the greenhouse gas reductions achieved by BayREN’s efforts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Board recognizes and celebrates these achievements and supports all the work to come.

The foregoing was adopted by the Executive Board this 19th day of January, 2023.

Jesse Arreguin
President

Certification of Executive Board Approval

I, the undersigned, the appointed and qualified Clerk of the Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (Association), do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the Association at a duly called and noticed meeting held in San Francisco, California, and at other remote locations, on the 19th day of January, 2023.

Frederick Castro
Clerk of the Board