

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-01
ABAG PUBLICLY OWNED ENERGY RESOURCES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**FINDINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361 TO CONTINUE VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS
FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS PUBLICLY OWNED
ENERGY RESOURCES (ABAG POWER) AND ITS RELATED ENTITIES AND
COMMITTEES DURING THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency, as defined under the California Emergency Services Act, due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, beginning in March 2020, the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 suspended Brown Act requirements related to teleconferencing during the COVID-19 pandemic provided that notice, accessibility, and other requirements were met, and the public was allowed to observe and address the legislative body at the meeting; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order N-08-21 extended the previous order until September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments Publicly Owned Energy Resources (ABAG POWER) and its related entities and committees have conducted their meetings virtually, as authorized by the Executive Order, since March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, the Governor signed into law AB 361, an urgency measure effective upon adoption, that provides flexibility to government bodies, allowing them to meet virtually without conforming to the Brown Act teleconferencing rules if: (i) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; (ii) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or (iii) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, although applicable social distancing requirements are currently no longer in effect, the San Francisco Public Health Department continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing in combination with other safety precautions when activities occur in shared indoor spaces to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, in the last few months, the Delta variant has surged in the United States and become the predominant COVID-19 variant, the Delta variant is believed by medical experts to be twice

as contagious as previous variants, and data has shown the variant has increased transmissibility even among some vaccinated people; and

WHEREAS, due to uncertainty and concerns about the Delta variant and current conditions, many workplaces that had announced a return to regular in-person operations have pushed back the full return date until later in the year or next year; and

WHEREAS, virtual meetings have not diminished the public's ability to observe and participate and have expanded opportunities to do so for some communities; and

WHEREAS, given the heightened risks of the predominant variant of COVID-19 in the community, holding meetings with all members of the legislative body, staff, and the public in attendance in person in a shared indoor meeting space would pose an unnecessary and immediate risk to the attendees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors on behalf of ABAG POWER hereby determines that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with AB 361, based on the findings and determinations herein, meetings of ABAG POWER, its related entities and its committees will be held virtually, with Brown Act teleconferencing rules suspended; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be effective upon adoption and remain in effect for 30 days after the first meeting held in accordance with AB 361.

This resolution was passed by the Executive Committee at its meeting on this 16th day of November 2021.

By: _____
Angela Walton, Chair

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Certification of Executive Committee Approval

I, the undersigned, the appointed and qualified Secretary of the ABAG Publicly OWned Energy Resources (ABAG POWER), do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Executive Committee of ABAG POWER at a duly called meeting held on the 16th day of November 2021.

Jennifer Berg, Secretary
ABAG POWER

Approved as To Legal Form

Kathleen Kane, Acting Legal Counsel
ABAG POWER