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Outlook

350Marin Letter to MCE Board-please distribute asap

From jody timms <jodytimms@comcast.net>

Date Tue 9/15/2026 2:17 PM

To Jesica Brooks <jbrooks@mcecleanenergy.org>; Tanya Lomas <tlomas@mcecleanenergy.org>

 1 attachment (18 KB)

350Marin Letter to MCE-9.15.26.docx;

You don't often get email from jodytimms@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello-please see attached for distribution, thank you!

Jody D. Timms, Ph.D., (she/her)

Climate Action Now! For all of us. For the Earth. 🌍

Co-founder 350Marin.org

September 15, 2026

MCE Board of Directors
1125 Tamalpais Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901

RE: September 17, 2026 Board Meeting -Agenda Items

Dear MCE Board of Directors,

On behalf of the Leadership Team of 350Marin, we are writing to express a number of our thoughts regarding agenda items on the upcoming Board meeting. With a 2-hour closed session at the beginning of a packed and critically important agenda, there will likely be little time and attention for extensive public comment.

Re: Item 2-Closed Session Matters: The crisis that MCE has been in the midst of for months and months requires as much immediate stabilizing as possible given the community's concern and mistrust that is generally being expressed, with questions and worries having only increased given the recent Marin IJ headlines informing the public of two lawsuits the agency now faces. We don't intend to comment on either of those, but the appointment of an Interim CEO seems necessary for consistency in the short run. It's unfortunate, and again concerning, that the appointment likely involves an individual apparently named in at least one of the lawsuits. But keeping the ship afloat seems most important and getting on to the search for a new CEO all the more urgent.

Re: Item 5-Public Open Time: On Monday, the Board and interested community members were informed of the "proposed temporary rate relief credit adjustment" that staff is proposing. As much as this is great news, and we support it fully, it concerns us that the process used was not one that began with a presentation to the Board first (with possibly additional options). Rate setting is a responsibility of the Board and though the item will be on next month's Board agenda, it seems the process (a major point of critique from the governance assessment), was a bit of the cart before the horse, once again.

Re: Item 8-Ad Hoc CEO Search Committee: We only wish to comment here to say that we do hope and trust that this search firm will undergo a thorough and collaborative process, with the Board and staff, as the new CEO search gets underway, quickly! Actions to improve the (dys)function of MCE could clearly be sped up with the hiring of an experienced and competent CEO.

Re: Item 9-Findings of the Governance Assessment: We have a few disappointments to share with the findings and recommendations coming from Leading Resources Inc. From the public's point of view, though 16 external stakeholders were interviewed as part of the process, there is no indication of their specific thoughts or opinions in the analysis presented! Methodologically, each assessment finding strongly references "survey responses," which the external stakeholders were not a part of. But what of our thoughtful assessments of MCE? We were also taken aback by the fact that only 65% of the Board members took the time to fill out the survey! Why not

every one of them? And why weren't all Board members extensively followed up with (and required) to ensure they contributed their points of view? This is again, not a great sign of the full Board's seriousness! In terms of presented recommendations, Finding #7 states that the Board is perceived as too large by 77% (disagreed or strongly disagreed). And yet when it comes to the implementation sequence, it's suggested that addressing this critical process occur after addressing "the root governance issues." This seems to indicate a discussion of Board size will begin in approximately 1.5 to 2 years! Seriously? The size of the Board must be addressed immediately and in conjunction with the development and adoption of a Board governance framework, no?? We strongly encourage the issue of Board size be carried out in parallel with first 7 recommendations. Otherwise, this re-envisioning and re-creation of a new and much healthier and functional MCE will become a very long and draw out process that will NOT strengthen community trust and confidence in the agency!

In the interest of time and brevity, we'll close our comments. As we've said before, we strongly support MCE and want to see the agency embrace the best and most innovative practices it possibly can in order to ensure its success and the community's support!

Sincerely,

Jody Timms, 350Marin Co-founder

350Marin Leadership Team Members: Patrick Costello; Silke Valentine; Julia Janeway and Bella Bertaud