

Powering County Resilience

Renewable Energy Solutions Forum

MARCH 20–22 • SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CALIF.

NACO GREEN GOVERNMENT

An initiative of the National Association of Counties

To reduce costs and save taxpayers' money, counties are turning to environmental solutions to help them operate more efficiently. Employing environmental strategies can save counties money through decreased energy and water usage and reduced amounts of waste, among others. NACO's Green Government Initiative provides comprehensive resources on high-priority topics including renewable energy and energy efficiency, air and water quality, transportation and land use, sustainable purchasing and procurement and waste reduction.

Through the initiative, NACO:

- Develops strategies to save counties money while reducing their environmental impact,
- Educates counties on techniques for implementing green strategies,
- Provides tools for counties to educate their communities on environmental initiatives,
- Promotes environmentally preferable purchasing, and
- Facilitates an open exchange with the private sector.

For more information about the initiative and details on future events and resources, visit www.naco.org/greencounties.

NACO thanks the following organizations for their sponsorship and support:



March 20, 2014

Welcome to **Powering County Resilience: Renewable Energy Solutions**, a forum for county leaders and partners on implementing renewable energies strategies. We here in Santa Barbara County appreciate you taking the time to join us for this important educational opportunity and we look forward to spending the next two days with all of you sharing new and innovative strategies to promote alternative energy use.

Renewable energies provide the opportunity for counties to improve their local environment while recognizing operational cost savings. Wind, solar, geothermal and other sources of renewable energy can help counties lower emissions from energy production, providing cleaner air for all to breathe. They also enable county facilities to operate more efficiently, conserving energy and lowering operational costs for electricity, heating, cooling and transportation fuels.

Working with utility companies to develop and invest in new technologies, such as smart grids, also offers the opportunity for counties to be involved in upgrading our nation's energy infrastructure, providing more efficient and secure energy to residents and businesses. New technologies allow for greater integration of renewable energies into the grid, and advancements have enabled the development of renewable energy from once-unused sources, such as capturing methane from landfills and converting it to compressed natural gas.

The next two days will be filled with learning from your peers through insightful presentations and site visits. We hope they stimulate dialogue amongst presenters and audience members alike, and we are very much looking forward to your feedback. We encourage all of you to provide NACo with your comments so we can continue to improve the resources we provide to county leaders.



Enjoy your time here in Santa Barbara County!

Sincerely,

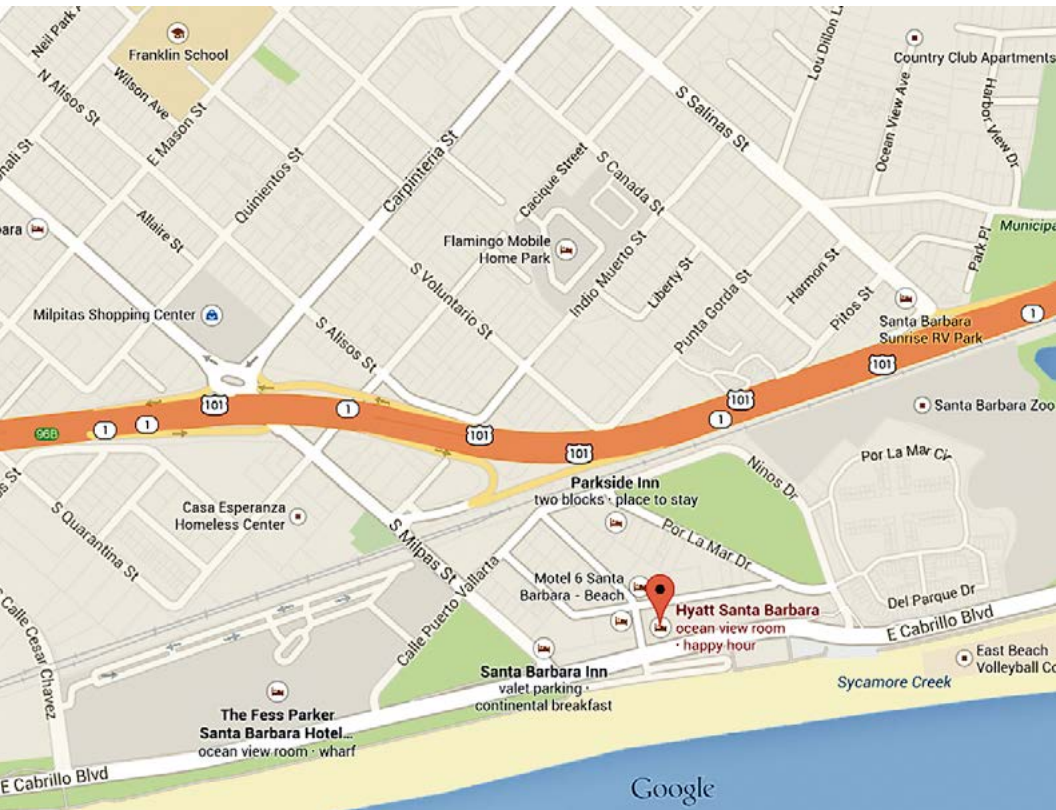
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Salud Carbajal". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Supervisor Salud Carbajal
Chair, NACo Green Government Initiative
1st District Supervisor, County of Santa Barbara

Meeting & Hotel Location

Hyatt Santa Barbara
1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
PHONE: 805.882.1234

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.



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Meeting Agenda

● THURSDAY, MARCH 20

6:30 p.m.

Welcome Reception

La Cantina Room, Santa Barbara Hyatt

Hon. Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, Santa Barbara County, Calif.,
and Green Government Initiative Chair

● FRIDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 a.m.

Peer Networking Breakfast

La Cantina Room, Santa Barbara Hyatt

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Forum Overview

Hon. Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, Santa Barbara County, Calif.,
and Green Government Initiative Chair

Mona Miyasato, CEO, Santa Barbara County, Calif.

8:45 a.m.

Santa Barbara County Sustainability Program and Action Plan

Santa Barbara County created its Sustainability Action Plan in order to develop county policies that lower energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in the face of tightening budgets, as well as potential state and federal regulatory requirements. Through the plan, the county is demonstrating the vital role local governments play in improving the environment, and expects to see a number of benefits resulting from the plan, including lower energy bills, new economic development, lower greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality.

Greg Chanis, Assistant Director, General Services,
Santa Barbara County, Calif.

9:15 a.m.

Creating Resilient Counties through Renewable Energy

Unexpected events pose a number of threats to counties across the country. Counties that are prepared to address unforeseen circumstances, such as natural disasters, extreme weather events, economic disruptions and spikes in energy prices, have a greater chance of bouncing back from these events. A panel of experts will discuss how their counties are using renewable energies to make their counties more resilient, and the associated environmental and economic benefits.

Katie Borgella, Principal Planner, Tompkins County, N.Y.

David Broustis, Energy Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, King County, Wash.

Howard Choy, General Manager, Office of Sustainability, Los Angeles County, Calif.

Moderator:

Hon. Chris Rodgers, Commissioner, Douglas County, Neb. and NACo Immediate Past President

10:30 a.m.

Peer Networking Break

10:45 a.m.

Strategies to Develop and Manage Wind Power Programs

Energy from the wind has been harnessed for centuries, but wind has yet to be widely adopted as a significant source of renewable energy. Although advancements in technology have made wind power more efficient and reliable, issues with siting, transmission and zoning regulations, among others, have hampered wind power's growth. This presentation will discuss how counties can navigate complex issues in developing wind power to bring this renewable energy to counties across the country.

Mike Bergey, President, Distributed Wind Energy Association, Flagstaff, Ariz.

Kelly Kepner, Economic Development Director, Benton County, Ind.

Moderator:

Hon. Victoria Reinhardt, Commission Chair, Ramsey County, Minn.



12:00 p.m.

**Luncheon Discussion: Public-Private Partnerships
for Renewable Energy Development**

For counties working to develop and use cleaner sources of energy, partnering with private organizations can provide the expertise needed to help achieve sustainability goals. This presentation will highlight the role private sector companies play in helping counties develop and implement energy and cost-saving sustainability projects.

Julie Pippel, Director, Division of Environmental Management,
Washington County, Md.

Clark Wiedetz, Director, Alternative & Renewable Energy,
Water and Wastewater Treatment, Siemens, Atlanta, Ga.

Moderator:

Hon. Gregg Goslin, Commissioner, Cook County, Ill.

1:15 p.m.

Financial and Environmental Benefits of Renewable Energies

Renewable energies can provide counties the opportunity to operate more efficiently and save on energy costs, while reducing environmental impacts and lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Panelists will discuss the financial and environmental benefits they have seen in their counties through implementing renewable energy projects.

Craig O'Hare, Energy Programs Specialist, Office of Renewable Energy,
Santa Fe County, N.M.

Jamie Tuckey, Communications Director, Marin Clean Energy,
Marin County, Calif.

Moderator:

Jessica Beyer, Communications Manager & Business Analyst,
Blue Earth County, Minn.

2:00 p.m.

Break

2:15 p.m.

Tajiguas Landfill Tour Preview

Before departing for the afternoon tours, attendees will hear an overview of what to expect on the tours.

Mark Schleich, Deputy Director of Public Works,
Santa Barbara County, Calif.

2:30 p.m.

Mobile Workshop: Renewable Energy in Action

Participants will board a bus for tours of Santa Barbara facilities that highlight and demonstrate innovative ways for developing renewable energy and lowering county energy bills.

**Tajiguas Landfill: Conversion Technology,
Methane and Recycling**

The Santa Barbara County-owned Tajiguas Landfill is taking the lead in providing clean energy from waste. When the Resource Recovery Project is complete, the new landfill facilities will generate one megawatt of renewable energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing more than 26,000 cars off the road per year, generate more than \$800,000 in annual property tax and provide 56 permanent facility operations jobs.

Guide:

Mark Schleich, Deputy Director of Public Works,
Santa Barbara County, Calif.

County Courthouse Geothermal Heating/Cooling Facility Tour

The Santa Barbara County Courthouse, a National Historic Landmark built in 1926, has been using a geothermal heating and cooling system since the mid-2000s. Using geothermal heating has allowed the county to reduce the building's annual utility bills from \$64,000 to just under \$2,000, while maintaining the building's historic status.

Guide:

Robert Ooley, AIA, Architect, Santa Barbara County, Calif.

5:30 p.m.

Evening Reception

Santa Barbara County Courthouse

6:30 p.m.

Buses Depart for Santa Barbara Hyatt

Attendees are welcome to stay and explore downtown Santa Barbara.

● **SATURDAY, MARCH 22**

8:00 a.m.

Peer Networking Breakfast

La Cantina Room, Santa Barbara Hyatt

8:30 a.m.

Renewable Energy Financing Programs

Start-up costs can often be a barrier for counties wanting to develop renewable energy projects. This discussion will highlight innovative financing programs, which counties can use to help fund the development of renewable energy and sustainability-focused programs.

Kayla Platt, Management Associate II, General Services Agency,
Alameda County, Calif.

Dustin Knutson, Director of Energy Services,
Institute for Building Technology & Safety

Angie Hacker, emPower Program Manager, Santa Barbara County, Calif.

Moderator:

Cara Martinson, Associate Legislative Representative,
California State Association of Counties

9:45 a.m.

Break

10:00 a.m.

Sustainable Operations Facility Tour

Participants will board a bus to depart for a tour connecting the role renewable energies can play with broader sustainability measures.

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District Building Tour

As the local government agency responsible for protecting Santa Barbara County residents from the dangers of air pollutants, it's only appropriate that the building they work in reflects their mission and goals. The Casa Nueva building takes advantage of renewable energies and green building strategies, is 20 percent more efficient than California's 2001 energy efficiency standards and uses less energy for lighting than most office buildings.

Guide:

Robert Ooley, AIA, Architect, Santa Barbara County, Calif.

12:00 p.m.

Program Conclusion

NOTES



Upcoming NACo Events



2014 NACo RESILIENT COUNTIES FORUM – GROWING STRONGER PLACES

May 1–2, 2014 • San Francisco, Calif.
Grand Hyatt San Francisco



2014 NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE

May 21–23, 2014 • Anchorage Borough, Alaska
William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center



2014 COUNTY SOLUTIONS AND IDEA MARKETPLACE

July 11–14, 2014 – New Orleans Parish, La.
Morial Convention Center





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