



## **POLICY TITLE: CLIMATE ADAPTATION POLICY**

### **POLICY NUMBER: 1060**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to guide the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) Board of Directors and staff in addressing the challenges of the Earth’s impending climate emergency.

The District understands its responsibility for environmental stewardship while providing water and wastewater services to meet the needs of the community’s residents, businesses and guests. The District is committed to meeting water needs with production, storage, and efficient equipment for energy reduction practices throughout the system, which may result in lowering overall District expenses.

The District is invested in contributing to community awareness of its intentions to adapt its actions to minimize the impact of the climate crisis on the community.

#### **1060.1 Policy Principles and Goals**

- **Water Efficiency:** To reduce consumption and losses with programs and processes to eliminate waste and reduce discharge
- **Building Efficiency:** To reduce energy consumption both environmentally and with equipment in offices and in the field
- **Renewable Energy:** To utilize passive systems to reduce power costs and batteries to provide storage generally and for emergencies
- **Transportation:** To reduce the overall utilization (miles driven) on all vehicles and implement fleet wide hybrid and EV transition for all District transportation needs. Implement the use of electric equipment as feasible and within budgetary constraints.
- **Zero Waste:** Eliminate solid waste with aggressive waste recycling utilizing new technologies as developed and evaluated to be of benefit for the District. Forge relationships with other organizations to enhance recycling efforts such as the Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA)
- **Carbon Sequestration:** Maintain and increase forest carbon sequestration by regularly assessing the health and safety of District forestlands. Management of the District forest properties to maintain or increase the overall health, size and count of existing tree species while selectively reducing dead, highly flammable vegetation. Encourage participation in and support local groups and any government sponsored urban tree planting programs in tree planting efforts.
- **Lighting:** Encourage utilization of energy efficient light sources to save energy, provide safety for Cambrians, visitors, and wildlife, and decrease the District’s carbon footprint. As budget constraints dictate, move toward the goal of replacing current lighting sources with useful, targeted, low level, controlled, and warm colored lighting to reduce the level of Cambria’s light pollution.
- **Fire Safety**  
Work with appropriate agencies to improve compliance with existing ordinances for defensible space around structures, ember-proofing and hardening structures for fire resistance.
- **Informed Decision Making:** Prior to making decisions related to climate adaptation actions within the jurisdiction of the District, the Board will consider the following:

- Has the Board considered all appropriate alternatives, addressing the identified causes of the climate crisis and where the District may alter its actions to prevent and address the crisis?
- Is the information the Board has received clear, reliable, meaningful, and based on documented research related to the climate crisis?
- Has an adequate, unbiased analysis of the possible actions been considered?
- When considering spending financial and/or manpower resources, does the District have adequate reserves to utilize in this endeavor? Have all grant opportunities been exhausted? Are there other governmental resources available to support the District's actions?

## **1060.2 Policy Procedures**

This policy serves as a first step in the District's intent to address its role in Climate Adaptation within its jurisdiction. Development of a Climate Action Plan is the next step and will include measurable goals and timelines. The District is dedicated to making serious changes in its actions to preserve Cambria's natural environmental resources, while providing improved safety measures for all inhabitants.