



THE TOWN OF
CORTE MADERA
MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Corte Madera, CA
94925-1492

www.cortemadera.gov

Town Manager
Town Council
415-927-5050

Town Clerk
415-927-5086

Finance Department
415-927-5055

Central Marin Fire Department
415-927-5077

Planning Division
415-927-5064

Building Division
415-927-5062

Public Works Department
415-927-5057

Parks and Recreation
Department
415-927-5072

Sanitary District No. 2
628-253-1158

Central Marin Police Authority
415-927-5150

September 15, 2026

The Honorable Judge Stephen P. Freccero
Marin County Superior Court
P.O. Box 4988
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

Massey Bambara, Foreperson
Marin County Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room #275
San Rafael, CA 94903

**Town of Corte Madera Response to Grand Jury Report
“MCE, Marin Clean Energy: A Series of Missteps Highlight Need for
Governance Changes”**

Dear Honorable Judge Freccero and Foreperson Bambara:

At its regular meeting on September 15, 2026, the Corte Madera Town Council reviewed the report “MCE, Marin Clean Energy: A Series of Missteps Highlight Need for Governance Changes” dated June 16, 2026. The report calls for a response from the Town of Corte Madera to findings F4 and F5 and recommendations R5 and R6. Please see the attached response from the Town.

Should the members of the Grand Jury require any additional information, please contact Climate Action and Adaptation Coordinator Phoebe Goulden at 628-258-0327 or pgoulden@cortemadera.gov.

Sincerely,

Rosa Thomas
Mayor, Town of Corte Madera



RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

REPORT TITLE: "MCE, Marin Clean Energy: A Series of Missteps Highlight Need for Governance Changes"

REPORT DATE: June 16, 2026

RESPONSE DATE: September 15, 2026

AGENCY NAME: Town of Corte Madera

RESPONSE BY: Rosa Thomas, Mayor

FINDINGS

- We agree with the findings numbered: **F4 and F5**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered **R5 and R6** will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Date: 9/15/2026

Signed: Rosa Thomas
Mayor, Town of Corte Madera

Number of pages attached: 2

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS

F4. Many Board members have — quite understandably — limited expertise regarding a large and complex company such as MCE.

Response: Agree

The Town of Corte Madera agrees with this finding, acknowledging that MCE is a large and complex public agency. Unlike most local governments, MCE operates in a highly technical and heavily regulated energy market and is responsible for procuring electricity, managing complex long-term contracts, and complying with an evolving regulatory environment.

MCE Board members are elected officials who bring experience in public governance, budgeting, policy development, and oversight due to the nature of their elected office. The Town supports MCE providing comprehensive onboarding and ongoing educational opportunities to equip Board members with the additional knowledge needed to effectively fulfill their governance and oversight responsibilities.

F5. All MCE Board members are local elected officials who face competing demands on their limited time and resources; as a result, meeting attendance has often been poor, and insufficient for optimally effective governance.

Response: Agree

The Town agrees that all MCE Board members face competing demands on their limited time and resources. As local elected officials, they must balance their responsibility to MCE with their duties as Town Council members, while also managing other public service, professional and/or personal obligations. MCE's Board is also unusually large, with representatives from member jurisdictions spanning multiple counties, and coordinating schedules can present significant challenges.

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

R5. By December 31, 2026, all of MCE's Marin jurisdictions (and preferably, all 38 jurisdictions covered by MCE) should implement a process by which its appointed Board member (or, in that person's absence, the designated alternate member) commits to attending each regular Board meeting.

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

The Town of Corte Madera does not believe that implementation of a separate process to address MCE meeting attendance is warranted or reasonable. The Town has an established public process for appointing representatives and alternates to regional boards and commissions, including MCE, and expects those appointees to fulfill the responsibilities of their appointments. The Town will continue to consider attendance and availability when making its annual appointments to regional bodies.

R6. By December 31, 2026, all of MCE's Marin jurisdictions (and preferably, all 38 jurisdictions covered by MCE) should reassess their appointments of chosen Board members to prioritize those with the most extensive financial and energy expertise.

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

The Town of Corte Madera does not believe that a reassessment of its appointment process to the MCE Board is warranted or reasonable. Financial and energy expertise is important, but it should be weighed together with other factors including attendance, institutional knowledge, and the representative's ability to serve consistently. The Town Council's existing appointment process for local elected officials serving on regional boards and commissions, including MCE, already considers each potential appointee's background, interest, and ability to provide effective governance and subject-matter expertise to the relevant board or commission.