

# CCA Benefits

California's Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) are committed to providing clean, renewable energy choices at competitive rates and creating innovative programs that benefit people, the environment and the economy. Here are some of the ways CCAs empower local communities:

## Local Control

CCAs are formed locally and are overseen by publicly-elected officials, providing much higher levels of transparency, accountability and accessibility than investor-owned utilities (IOUs). Decisions about electricity choices, such as power content and rates, are made by a community for that community. In order to ensure a broad range of community voices are heard, a number of CCAs also have community advisory committees that act as a liaison between key stakeholder groups and CCA boards. These committees include representatives from environmental justice, organized labor and education advocacy groups.

## People, not Profits

Unlike IOUs, CCAs are not-for-profit energy providers. As a result, excess revenue is reinvested back into the local economy, through on-bill savings and community programs. This ensures net revenues remain in the local community and continue to benefit local customers. CCA customers in California collectively saved an estimated \$90 million on their energy bills in 2018 when compared to their IOU counterparts.

## Cleaner Environment

Energy production is one of the largest contributors to harmful greenhouse gas emissions. CCAs are paving the way for California to achieve its ambitious climate goals by providing customers with the same reliability and affordability as traditional energy sources but with clean, renewable and carbon-free power sources. As the customer base of CCAs grows, the advancement of renewable clean energy in California is accelerated by the ambitious goals set by aggregators. CCAs have to date contracted with new renewable energy projects totaling more than 2,000 megawatts.

## Local Power, Local Jobs

CCAs are also driving the construction of local clean power resources in the communities they serve. Marin Clean Energy, for example, has contracted with local renewable energy projects totalling 19 megawatts, including the 10.5 megawatt "MCE Solar One" project, constructed on an industrial brownfield site in Richmond. The project supported 341 jobs and maximized local economic benefits by requiring that at least half the workforce be comprised of local residents.

## Competition

Fair competition and choice drive clean technology innovations that lead to better service, cost savings and a more sustainable energy economy through new renewable energy and clean technology innovations. Competition from CCAs has created a competitive dynamic in the market that didn't exist before, one that is pushing the IOUs to offer their customers greener energy options as well. In many cases, CCAs and IOUs are working in partnership to drive technological advancements so grid infrastructure can accommodate the ever increasing demand for clean energy in California.