CCAs RESPOND to COVID-19

- Stepped-up efforts to enroll customers in CARE/FERA
- $1.5 million to support local relief efforts
- Suspended collection activities
- $1 million in bill assistance
- Suspended return of customers to IOU service due to late payment
- Donations to food bank, community groups
- $10 million for customer/community relief
- $2,500 donation to food bank
- $10 million for customer/community relief
- $22.4 million in bill deferments
- $3 million in on-bill credits

SPRING 2020
Together we are facing a truly unprecedented situation that has wrought unimaginable heartbreak and hardship throughout California and around the world. The coronavirus pandemic has impacted every aspect of our lives, affecting our families, our work, and our communities.

We have been asking ourselves questions that would have seemed unthinkable just a short time ago: How do we best ensure our families are safe and have access to the resources they need? How do we keep our organizations running and people employed? How do we continue to provide help and services to those most in need?

In California, it is gratifying to see early action to safeguard electricity service for all customers and the suspension of disconnections and late-payment collections. I am also inspired by the steps our member CCAs have taken to provide immediate relief to their customers and communities, and the work they are doing to ensure that their core work is continuing apace (albeit virtually). From the signing of new long-term clean energy contracts to enrolling low-income customers in energy discount programs to launching service to new communities, CCAs have truly maintained their stride.

At the same time, community choice energy providers are assessing potential impacts of the pandemic on revenues, retail load, construction of new energy resources, and every aspect of their operations. They are also looking to the future and the leading role CCAs can play in the state’s economic recovery.

On a brighter note, May 2020 marks the 10-year anniversary of community choice aggregation in California. I think we can all agree that CCA has come a long way since MCE launched the first operational CCA program in Marin County in 2010. There are now 21 community choice energy providers successfully serving more than 10 million customers in 170+ cities and counties throughout California.

Thanks to the groundbreaking work of MCE and the early supporters of community choice energy, California communities now have a proven model to achieve their energy ambitions and contribute positively to the state’s evolving energy system. The road hasn’t been easy, but it’s sure been worthwhile.

Stay well.

Beth Vaughan
Executive Director, CalCCA
CalCCA GOES TO SACRAMENTO

CalCCA staff, lobbying team, and representatives of member CCAs gathered at the State Capitol Building in Sacramento for Lobby Day in early March (before social distancing and stay-at-home orders went into effect). The group spent the day meeting with legislators and legislative staff and shared information about the leading role CCAs are playing in California’s efforts to achieve ambitious clean energy goals, support energy resilience, and advance reliability and affordability. The meetings were extremely productive, and it was gratifying to hear such high praise—and high expectations!—for the work of CCAs in California. CalCCA looks forward to working together with elected officials to bring forth policies that benefit both California and our communities.

CalCCA Board Members, Left to Right: Dawn Weisz/MCE; Ted Bardacke/Clean Power Alliance; Beth Vaughan/CalCCA, Geof Syphers/Sonoma Clean Power; Girish Balachandran/Silicon Valley Clean Energy; Mitch Sears/Valley Clean Energy; Jenine Windeshausen/Pioneer Community Energy.

Meeting with Assemblymember Chris Holden (D-Pasadena), Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, and Mary McDonald, Chief Consultant. Also pictured: CalCCA Director of Legislative Affairs Sean MacNeil, CalCCA Executive Director Beth Vaughan, MCE CEO Dawn Weisz, and Executive Director of Clean Power Alliance Ted Bardacke.

Meeting with Kip Lipper, Energy Advisor to Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins.

Meeting in the Governor’s Office with Rachel Wagoner, Cabinet Deputy Legislative Secretary, Alice Reynolds, Energy Advisor to Gov. Gavin Newsom, and Ann Patterson, Chief Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary.
QUICK TAKES

- CalCCA is excited to announce we’ve added three new staff members to the association’s in-house team: Evelyn Kahl (General Counsel), Shawn-Dai Linderman (Policy Assistant) and Sandra McCafferty (Administrative Coordinator). Please join us in welcoming Evelyn, Shawn-Dai and Sandra!

- CalCCA’s new monthly Community Energy Innovation (CEI) webinar series provides a platform for CCAs and their partners to share experiences in a variety of focus areas, including energy resilience, customer programs, load management and power procurement. We invite you to join in and participate! You can find the webinar schedule here. Thank you to our webinar sponsor, Calpine Energy Solutions.

- Desert Community Energy (DCE) and Western Community Energy (WCE) have joined the ranks of operational community choice providers in California. Both are located in Riverside County, with DCE providing CCA service to customers in Palm Springs and WCE serving the cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Perris and Wildomar. With the addition of these new aggregators, there are now 21 community choice energy programs in California!

- CalCCA has launched a social media campaign, “Powered by Community Choice,” to raise awareness about CCA in California. Please visit the campaign website and help us spread the word by sharing the link on your social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter). You can also send an email to info@cal-cca.org and CalCCA will send you a Powered by Community Choice digital graphic (pictured at right) to share on your website or social media site.

Celebrating 10 Years of CCA in California!

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2010-2020
CLEANPOWERSF

CleanPowerSF offers renewable, affordable and accessible electricity to about 380,000 San Francisco residents and businesses.

Greener Energy, Greater Savings
Since the program’s launch in May 2016, CleanPowerSF has contributed to reducing San Francisco’s electricity sector greenhouse gas emissions by 83% from 1990 levels (that’s the equivalent of removing 134,000 passenger vehicles from the road for a year). In addition, CleanPowerSF has saved its customers more than $11 million by delivering rates that are cheaper than the alternatives offered by PG&E.

Supporting a Renewable Energy Future, Today
In Q1, CleanPowerSF reached a new milestone with over 7,400 SuperGreen customers, representing 2% of customer accounts and more than 4% of customer load. CleanPowerSF also completed an analysis of potential in–city and regional sites for the development of new renewable energy projects on city–owned property. CleanPowerSF was a sponsor of the “San Francisco Energy Fair,” held on February 25 and hosted by the SF Department of the Environment. The free public event had over 300 attendees and provided a hands–on opportunity for residents to learn about clean energy incentives and new electrification technologies to encourage greater consumer shift away from natural gas. The event was sponsored by BayREN, BayREN Home+ and Whole Foods, and included a live induction cooking demonstration with San Francisco Mayor London Breed.

COVID–19 Response
In response to the COVID–19 crisis, CleanPowerSF continues to closely monitor developments and support customers with additional communications and a suspension on returns to PG&E service. Regular updates and additional resources and information can be found at www.cleanpowersf.org/covid-19.

CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE

Launched in 2018, Clean Power Alliance serves approximately 1 million customer accounts in 32 communities across Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

2018–2019 Impact Report
CPA has issued its first Annual Impact Report looking back at 2018–19. In the report, CPA details how it tackled the challenges that came with leading on clean energy development and the benefits to local communities. The report highlights customer snapshots, power procurement activity, financial performance, programs and community involvement.

Large–Scale 100 MW Battery Energy Storage Agreement
CPA’s board of directors recently approved its first battery storage project, the large–scale Luna Storage project, which will be up and running next year in the city of Lancaster. The project will generate $100 million for the regional economy, create approximately 50 union construction jobs, and increase California’s grid reliability while reducing fossil fuel use.
The 100 MW Luna Storage stand-alone battery storage project is the largest energy storage agreement (ESA) deal to date for a CCA in California, and one of the largest in the entire state. This ESA will enable CPA to surpass its California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Integrated Resource Plan requirements of at least 98.4 MW of new capacity by 2021.

Community-Based Organization Outreach Grant
In early 2020, CPA launched a Community-Based Organization (CBO) Outreach Grant program, concluding the application process in March. The goal of the program is to reach low-income customers in disadvantaged communities (DAC) and provide education on CPA service, the benefits of clean energy and financial incentives through the California Alternate Rates for Energy and Family Electric Rate Assistance programs, CPA’s Distributed Energy Response pilot program, and the DAC Green Tariff customer program (pending CPUC funding/approval). CPA received 11 applications for the CBO Grant program and is advancing with six grant awards.

EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY
Launched in 2018, East Bay Community Energy serves ~550,000 customers in Alameda County including in Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Oakland, Piedmont, San Leandro, Union City and the county’s unincorporated areas.

EBCE Launches $1.5 Million COVID-19 Relief Effort
East Bay Community Energy earmarked $1.5 million toward community relief efforts in Alameda County. Those efforts include:

- Temporarily Suspending Customer Collections and Offering Flexible Payment Plans: EBCE has suspended the return of nonpaying customers to PG&E service and is suspending collections activities through at least May 2020. EBCE is also working to implement flexible payment plans for customers impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.
- Community Relief Funding: EBCE will contribute $1.1 million to the 12 communities it serves to support their community relief efforts.
- Corporate Partners Donation Initiative: EBCE is spearheading an initiative soliciting donations from its largest customers, to donate to the county food bank and Meals on Wheels programs. As of April 15, customers have more than doubled EBCE’s $70,000 contribution.
- Community Grant Funds: EBCE has allocated over $300,000 in additional funds to use for community grants in response to COVID-19, and is developing effective strategies to utilize these funds.
- EBCE launched a website that catalogs its relief efforts, available at https://ebce.org/covid.
EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY (cont.)

EBCE's 2018 GHG Emissions Factor Less Than Half That of PG&E
EBCE is a voluntary participant in The Climate Registry, a California-based nonprofit that designs and operates voluntary and compliance greenhouse gas reporting programs. Each year, EBCE undergoes an audit of its power procurement and The Climate Registry publishes the results. For 2018, EBCE was certified at the Climate Registered™ Gold level with an emissions factor for Bright Choice of 100.75 lbs/MWh of CO2, and the emissions factor was zero for Brilliant 100 and Renewable 100. This compares to PG&E’s rate of 206.29 lbs/MWh for 2018. The California average in 2017 was 474 lbs/MWh and the 2018 national average was 990 lbs/MWh. This makes EBCE’s basic product about 90% cleaner than the national average.

EBCE Certified by CPUC to Add Newark, Pleasanton and Tracy
In March 2020, EBCE received from the CPUC a letter certifying an addendum to its Implementation Plan and Statement of Intent. The addendum includes the phase-in of service to the cities of Newark, Pleasanton and Tracy in 2021.

LANCASTER CHOICE ENERGY

Launched in 2015, LCE serves ~ 50,000 customers in the City of Lancaster in north Los Angeles County. LCE offers ClearChoice 37% renewable and SmartChoice 100% renewable energy service, with approximately half of its customers eligible for low-income energy programs.

Small Commercial Direct Install Program Launches Last Phase
The final phase of Lancaster Choice Energy’s three-year Small Commercial Direct Install program launched in late February. Energy efficiency experts will evaluate business facilities free of charge and will install energy efficiency upgrades such as LED lights, cooler display lights, and pool lights at no cost to the customer or business. In 2019, during the program’s first two phases, 138 participating businesses saved a total of 1,853,170 kWh and 12,456 installations took place, including measures such as LED lights, solar film and occupancy sensors.

EV Incentive Program
In the final stretch of LCE’s first electric vehicle incentive program, qualified LCE customers will receive a $3,000 voucher to be used toward the purchase of a qualifying new EV or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle purchased from participating Lancaster Auto Mall dealerships. A $1,500 incentive is also available for vehicle leases. Launched in October 2019, the EV incentive program has been extended to June 30, 2020, or until funds are exhausted (whichever comes first). Approximately 30 EV/PHEVs have been purchased or leased via the program thus far.

‘CHOICE’ WORDS

“CCAs empower communities to take back control of their electricity supply, at a time when California’s investor-owned utilities are wrangling with high-cost legacy renewable contracts, increasing social dissatisfaction, and in the case of one utility, ongoing bankruptcy.”

- Kroll Bond Rating Agency report, A Better Way: The Emergence of Community Choice Aggregation in California
As California’s first Community Choice Aggregation program, MCE is a groundbreaking, not-for-profit, public agency that has been setting the standard for energy innovation in communities it serves since 2010. MCE offers cleaner power at stable rates, significantly reducing energy-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enabling millions of dollars of reinvestment in local energy programs. MCE is a load-serving entity supporting a 1,000 MW peak load. MCE provides electricity service to more than 480,000 customer accounts and more than 1 million residents and businesses in 34 member communities across four Bay Area counties: Contra Costa, Napa, Marin and Solano. For more information about MCE, visit mceCleanEnergy.org.

MCE offers three renewable energy products: Light Green (60% renewable); Deep Green (sourced from 100% in-state solar and wind); and Local Sol (100% locally produced solar). MCE continues to exceed state renewable energy supply standards and GHG reduction targets. MCE achieved California’s renewable energy goals 13 years ahead of state targets, and its energy supply will be 99% GHG-free starting in 2022.

Unincorporated Solano County Begins Service With MCE
On April 1, customers in unincorporated Solano County began receiving service from MCE. These customers are now able to choose 60% or 100% renewable energy at cost-competitive prices, helping both the planet and the local economy by choosing their not-for-profit public agency, MCE. As it welcomes its new customers, MCE is continuing to host community meetings online so everyone can learn more about the benefits of choosing MCE. Visit mceCleanEnergy.org/Solano to learn more.

John Vasquez (left), member of the Solano County Board of Supervisors and MCE Board Director, and Erin Hannigan, Chair of the Solano County Board of Supervisors. MCE initiated service to customers in unincorporated Solano County in April.
MCE’s Response to COVID-19
MCE has suspended the return of nonpaying customers to PG&E service, and is suspending collections activities until further notice. Its team is completely functional through remote work tools, and most day-to-day operations remain unaffected, including ongoing board of directors and committee meetings. Please see MCE’s recent press release to learn more.

Energy Affordability During COVID-19
MCE is here to help support our communities during this time. If you are looking for resources that might help you keep your energy needs affordable while sheltering in place, check out MCE’s latest blog post which shares a variety of resources including information about discount programs, energy efficiency, and emergency financial assistance programs.

MCE's Annual Cash-Out for Solar Customers
MCE will be implementing its annual cash-out process for 2020 over the next few months. Starting this year, customers will no longer need to request their cash-out and will automatically be sent a check if they are eligible. MCE is also changing its net energy metering (NEM) policy to better reflect the energy market related to solar. For details on program changes, visit mceCleanEnergy.org/solar-customers.

MCE Signs PPA for 160 MW of New California Solar
“MCE is excited to partner with Longroad Energy and First Solar to offer our customers 160 MW of new California solar energy built with union labor,” said Dawn Weisz, CEO of MCE. “Projects like the Little Bear Solar portfolio help MCE meet our mission of reducing energy related greenhouse gas emissions while bolstering the California economy.” To learn more about this union labor project, located in Fresno, visit MCE's blog.

MCEv Income-Qualified Rebate
MCE is offering a $3,500 rebate for the purchase or lease of a new electric vehicle for income-qualified customers. Customers taking advantage of the MCEv rebate can combine it with the State of California’s Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP) for a total rebate of $7,000 to $8,000. Learn more about the rebate on MCE’s webpage.

Deep Green and Local Sol Certification Update
Beginning in 2021, MCE’s Deep Green and Local Sol 100% renewable and GHG-free energy service options will be verified through California’s Power Source Disclosure Program regulations. These changes will appear on the California Energy Commission’s Power Content Label and will allow customers to easily compare all of MCE’s service options to the statewide power mix and associated carbon emissions intensity.

Vallejo and Pleasant Hill Implementation Plan Certified
The California Public Utilities Commission has certified MCE’s implementation plan for the cities of Vallejo and Pleasant Hill. Customers in these two cities will now be eligible to enroll in MCE service starting in April 2021, which is expected to increase MCE’s customer accounts from around 480,000 to over 525,000.
Monterey Bay Community Power serves approximately 300,000 customers in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties and the cities of San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay.

In response to COVID-19, MBCP is deferring customer electric generation costs by 50% for the months of May and June at an estimated cost of $22 million to bring immediate relief to the communities it serves.

MBCP has signed two renewable energy contracts in partnership with Silicon Valley Clean Energy. The first contract is for California geothermal energy available 24/7, 365 days a year, and will provide 11% of MBCP’s total electric load. The other contract is for California solar plus storage that will cover 3% of MBCP’s total electric load.

In March, MBCP reduced the cost to support 100% renewable energy for its customers from an additional 1 penny per kilowatt-hour down to 0.8 of a cent/kWh.

PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY

Launched in 2016, Peninsula Clean Energy serves approximately 290,000 customers in San Mateo County, maintaining a 97.5% participation rate of eligible customers. PCE offers two service options: ECOplus, with 50% renewable and 95% GHG-free energy, and ECO100, with 100% renewable energy that is Green-e certified. PCE plans to offer 100% GHG-free electricity for all customers by 2021, and 100% renewable electricity for all customers by 2025.

Advancing Environmental Literacy
In February, PCE approved $210,000 for a partnership with the San Mateo County Office of Education to fund two environmental literacy programs: San Mateo Environmental Learning Collaborative Clean Energy Teacher Fellowship and Administrator Fellowship. These programs are part of an initiative to promote environmental literacy, help prepare leaders to integrate environmental sustainability, and create a climate-ready mindset across a school community’s campus, curriculum, community and culture.

BBB+ Rating From Fitch Ratings
PCE has received a BBB+ rating from Fitch Ratings. Fitch noted that the higher rating reflects PCE’s “strong financial profile, which includes strong operating margins and robust liquidity levels.” Moody’s Investors Service last May assigned a first-time Baa2 rating to PCE, which is one notch below the new Fitch rating.

$100 Bill Relief Credit
PCE granted a $100 bill credit to provide relief to low-income customers on California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) rate plans as of March 20. The one-time on-bill credit will automatically be applied in April for roughly 30,000 San Mateo County customers.
RANCHO MIRAGE ENERGY AUTHORITY

Rancho Mirage Energy Authority began serving the City of Rancho Mirage in 2018 and provides service to 17,200 accounts. “Base Choice,” RMEA’s default electricity service offering, is 50% carbon-free. It is comprised of 35% renewables and 15% hydroelectric. RMEA’s “Premium Renewable Choice” rate plan offers customers the option of “opting up” to 100% renewable energy at an affordable price. The authority has a net energy metering (NEM) program featuring a net surplus compensation rate of 6 cents per kilowatt-hour.

Residential Solar Rebate Program
RMEA’s Residential Solar Rebate Program, launched in July 2018, offers a one-time $500 rebate to any residential RMEA customer who installs a new solar system or expands an existing solar system. At the close of Q1 2020, RMEA had processed a total of approximately 468 rebates, resulting in $234,000 back to RMEA customers.

REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY

Launched in 2017, Redwood Coast Energy Authority serves approximately 62,000 customers in Humboldt County, Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Ferndale, Blue Lake, Rio Dell and Trinidad. RCEA offers “Repower” 40% renewable and “REpower+” 100% renewable energy service options.

RCEA Hosts Storage Workshop
Since the recent Public Safety Power Shutoffs, Humboldt County residents have been asking how they can make their homes and businesses more energy-resilient, how they can utilize the electricity from their solar panels when the grid is down, how vehicle-to-home storage solutions work, and where to start when investing in a battery storage system. To address these questions, RCEA hosted a “Battery Storage Basics” workshop in February. The event was the first in a series of public workshops designed to answer Humboldt County’s critical energy questions.

Feed-In Tariff Program
RCEA’s Feed-In Tariff Program offers standardized 20-year fixed-price contracts for new renewable energy projects under 1 MW in Humboldt County. The total programmatic capacity is 3.9 MW, with a current FIT price of $86/MWh. A number of new projects will soon be brought before the RCEA board of directors for approval.
SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY

San Jose Clean Energy serves approximately 328,000 customers in the City of San José and is the largest single-jurisdiction CCA in operation. It initiated service in September 2018 to municipal accounts and expanded in February and June 2019 to most residents and businesses. SJCE’s peak demand is approximately 1 GW. In April, SJCE will begin the first of four quarterly enrollments of residential and small commercial net energy metering (NEM) customers, the final mass enrollment in its service territory.

SJCE is working closely with other city departments to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and maintain the health and well-being of its customers. San José helped stand up and solicit more than $31 million in donations for Silicon Valley Strong, a fund to help residents with food insecurity and assist small businesses. SJCE continues to procure cost-effective energy for its customers and later this month will announce two more long-term power purchase agreements for renewable energy to be delivered from newly constructed projects in California. SJCE also partnered with the San José Department of Transportation to launch Drive Electric San José, working with local dealers to offer discounts on seven electric vehicle models in addition to existing state, federal and local rebates.

SILICON VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Launched in April 2017, Silicon Valley Clean Energy serves some 270,000 customers in Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Saratoga, Sunnyvale and unincorporated Santa Clara County. SVCE offers two carbon-free energy choices: GreenStart, procured from 50% renewable sources and 50% hydro, and GreenPrime, a 100% renewable, Green-e certified product.

Accelerating Innovation: SVCE Data Hive & GridShift Hackathon

SVCE is accelerating innovation by partnering with industry leaders to cultivate new solutions. SVCE launched the SVCE Data Hive, a flagship pilot project with UtilityAPI awarded through SVCE’s Innovation Onramp program. The SVCE Data Hive streamlines the process of implementing clean energy projects by providing instant, authorized and secure access to standardized energy data. In its first few weeks of operation, 50 clean energy services companies have subscribed to the Data Hive.

And in January, SVCE hosted the GridShift Hackathon. At Google Developers’ Launchpad Space in San Francisco, more than 100 “hackers” built innovative solutions enabling transformation to a cleaner, smarter and more equitable electric grid. Winning Hackathon teams took home $16,000 in prizes. Their proposed solutions included an interface allowing automated scheduling for flexible electric loads; a “Green Routes” app to locate electric vehicle charging stations that optimize for carbon, cost and convenience; and app-connected light bulbs indicating electricity prices and planned local power shutoffs.

More information is available at www.svcleanenergy.org/innovation.
Expanding Renewable Power Purchasing
Along with Monterey Bay Community Power, SVCE signed a joint power purchase agreement with Coso Geothermal Power Holdings LLC to receive geothermal energy for 15 years. An average of 33.3 MW of energy was contracted. This will expand SVCE’s energy portfolio and complement existing solar and wind resources by providing “baseload” energy on a continuous basis.

In addition, SVCE has established its third major PPA for solar-plus-storage energy with Rabbitbrush LLC, a project being developed in Kern County by First Solar. This project pairs 40 MW of solar generation with 8 MW of energy storage, and has a contract term of 15 years.

Together these resources will serve approximately 10% of SVCE’s customer demand (3% from Rabbitbrush and an average of 7% from Coso).

Advancing EV Infrastructure: SVTEC and Fast Charging Incentives
As a key element identified in its Electric Vehicle Joint Action Plan, SVCE has launched the “Silicon Valley Transportation Electrification Clearinghouse” (SVTEC) to accelerate vehicle electrification and deployment of EV infrastructure. SVTEC brings together key stakeholders including business customers, property interests, EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) providers, municipalities and other local organizations.

Through SVTEC, SVCE will be providing more than $12 million in funding and technical assistance for EV infrastructure, in association with the California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP), scheduled for launch in fall 2020. SVCE recently launched the “Priority Zone DC Fast Charging” initiative, offering incentives of $10,000 per high-speed EV charger for the installation of chargers located in higher-density residential areas. This program is aimed at expanding EV accessibility, as chargers will be installed near apartment communities to provide infrastructure where EV charging is often limited.

Those interested in joining SVTEC can find more information at https://www.svcleanenergy.org/svtec/.

Learn more about DC fast charging incentives at https://www.svcleanenergy.org/dcfastchargers/.

SONOMA CLEAN POWER

Sonoma Clean Power serves 226,000 accounts in Sonoma and Mendocino counties. SCP offers CleanStart 49% renewable/91% carbon-free electricity and EverGreen 100% local, renewable electricity. SCP enjoys an 87% participation rate. SCP’s stated mission is turning the tide on the climate crisis through bold ideas and practical programs.

Community Donations in Response to COVID-19
SCP has made donations to the following, to aid those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- The Redwood Empire Food Bank
- The Community Foundation of Mendocino County
- Santa Rosa–based Rotary groups, organizing lunches to benefit unemployed hospitality workers, prepared by local restaurants
Sonoma Clean Power (cont.)

Solar + Battery Storage Education
SCP held a “Solar + Battery Storage” webinar on April 14, focusing on residential SCP customers who want to incorporate solar and battery storage into new and existing homes.

Advanced Energy Rebuild (AER)
Over 350 homes have applied for Advanced Energy Rebuild, about 30% of which are choosing to rebuild all-electric homes. Of these, 306 are enrolled in the program, including 194 single-family homes, 96 multi-family units, and 16 accessory dwelling units (ADU). Enrolled rebuild projects perform 25% better than code and are expected to add 620 kW of solar PV with 580 kWh of battery storage capacity.

Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)
SCP launched the SGIP Assistance program in early April. This program provides residential and government customers with SGIP incentives up front and assists with applications to install battery energy storage systems under 30 kW.

Home Energy Efficiency Tips Campaign
In anticipation of increased home electricity use by customers, an educational campaign aimed at providing home energy efficiency tips and reducing customers’ bills is currently running, utilizing a variety of marketing channels.

Valley Clean Energy

Renewable Energy Deal Signed for Westlands Solar Park
At its February meeting, the Valley Clean Energy board of directors approved the purchase of 50 MW of renewable power from a new solar park located in Kings County. The power from the park will replace current short-term power contracts, allowing VCE to deliver higher levels of renewable power at competitive prices.

VCE’s 15-year contract with Aquamarine Westside LLC, CIM Group’s solar project, will commence when the project enters commercial operation, anticipated in 2021. The Aquamarine project is located in Westlands Solar Park, a 21,000-acre, master-planned clean energy park with more than 2 GW of solar production potential.

VCE Kicks Off Electric Transportation Program
VCE kicked off an informational electric vehicle program. Using the ChooseEV platform, VCE customers can access information on EV benefits, EV facts, a savings calculator, a carbon savings calculator, a listing of EV models, credits and rebates, and an EV charger locator. VCE must play a key role given its unique position of providing community-owned electric power and its goal to reduce GHG emissions. Providing a single source of information regarding EVs will encourage their adoption in VCE’s service territory.

VCE Hires Assistant General Manager and Director of Power Resources
Gordon Samuel joined VCE as assistant general manager and director of power resources, responsible for acquiring a diverse supply of clean renewable resources. With 25+ years’ experience leading resource planning and acquisition, marketing and trading, and regulatory compliance, Gordon brings a wealth of experience to the VCE team. Prior to joining VCE, Gordon was with MCE and also spent two years with a startup battery storage integrator company (Doosan GridTech), developing key relationships with investor-owned and public utilities, independent power producers and electric cooperatives. The bulk of Gordon’s career was with Arizona Public Service (APS), where he had several roles including the procurement of power from numerous large-scale wind, PV and solar thermal projects.
A Look Back: CalCCA steps up its legislative advocacy in Sacramento

CalCCA staff, representatives of member CCAs, and the association’s lobbying team gathered in Sacramento for Lobby Day in early March (before social distancing and stay-at-home orders went into effect).