

CALIFORNIA AGGREGATOR

The Quarterly Report of the
California Community Choice Association

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

The soon-to-be-operational Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center near Livermore (pictured) will generate power for East Bay Community Energy.

INSIDE:

- CCAs launch new joint powers authority
- UCLA report: CCAs lead clean energy transition
- Community choice poised for growth

WINTER 2021

WINTER 2021

OPENING LINES

A new year brings new opportunities!

As we kick off the new year, I hope you and your loved ones are in good health. The start of 2021 brings optimism that there is light at the end of the tunnel and better times ahead.

CalCCA and our member CCAs certainly have lots of positive developments to report. In particular, I want to highlight the formation of a new joint powers authority, [California Community Power](#), by eight community choice energy providers to do joint procurement, with a particular focus on reliability resources. First on CCP's to-do list: procuring up to 500 MW of long-duration storage.

The launch of CCP, which held its first board meeting in February, is a remarkable milestone that attests to the fact that CCAs continue to evolve as serious market participants in California's energy sector. The participating CCAs collectively serve about 2.6 million electric customer accounts, or about half the number served by Pacific Gas & Electric. That size "turns them into one of the biggest buyers of power in the country overnight," observed Colin Smith, a senior solar analyst with energy consultancy Wood Mackenzie.

Another major development is that CalCCA is sponsoring new legislation, SB 612, which aims to ensure all customers have fair and equal access to benefits associated with investor-owned utility (IOU) legacy power resources and that the resources are actively managed to maximize their value.

The bill is authored by State Sen. Anthony Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge) and has 14 co-authors and counting. The bill stems from a consensus proposal that was developed in the California Public Utilities Commission's Working Group 3 phase of the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment proceeding. The proposal was presented to the CPUC in February 2020 but has yet to receive any procedural consideration. Additional background can be found on the "[PCIA Story](#)" webpage.

It's also going to be another year of major growth for community choice in California as new CCAs launch and existing programs expand. Notably, two new CCAs—San Diego Community Power and Clean Energy Alliance—are set to initiate service in the San Diego area beginning in March and May, respectively. We expect the number of cities and counties served by CCA programs in California will reach 200 this year. Another milestone.

Stay well,



Beth Vaughan
Executive Director, CalCCA

"The energy delivered by CCAs comes from renewable sources by an average of 25 percentage points more than energy from investor-owned utilities in the same regions." —[Local demand is helping California surpass renewable energy targets](#), UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation, 2.1.21

QUICK TAKES

- Eight CCAs [announced](#) Feb. 8 the formation of a joint powers authority, [California Community Power](#), to do joint procurement of clean energy and reliability resources. The benefits of the new JPA include improved economies of scale, enhanced negotiating power, larger renewable and storage project procurement, shared risk mitigation, and increased opportunities for innovation, the CCAs said. CCP's first joint effort will focus on the [procurement of up to 500 MW of long-duration storage](#).
- Research by the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation finds CCAs in California have accelerated the achievement of the state's carbon-free energy targets. From 2011 to 2019, CCAs purchased twice as much renewable energy—or 23.5 million megawatt-hours—in excess of the state's renewables portfolio standard requirements, according to a [Luskin Center report](#). At the same time, CCAs' indirect effect was that investor-owned utilities overcomplied with the RPS by 22.5 million MWh.
- CCAs are continuing to earn investment-grade credit ratings, with three achieving ratings in just the last few months. [Silicon Valley Clean Energy received an A rating](#) from S&P Global Ratings in January (SVCE also has a Baa2 credit rating from Moody's); [CleanPowerSF received an A2 rating](#) from Moody's Investors Service in December; and [Central Coast Community Energy received an A rating](#) from S&P Global in October. [MCE](#) and [Peninsula Clean Energy](#) also have investment-grade credit ratings from both Moody's and Fitch Ratings.

CCA Load Growth 2016–2023



The graph above shows estimated CCA load growth to 2023 given plans to launch new CCAs and expansions of existing programs. It's expected CCA load will total almost 70,000 GWh in 2023, or about 37% of IOU load (as represented by the orange line).

WINTER 2021

UPDATES FROM CALIFORNIA'S CCAs

CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY ENERGY

Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) is a public agency that sources competitively priced electricity from clean and renewable energy resources. 3CE's goal is to source 100% of its customer demand from new clean and renewable resources by 2030, 15 years ahead of the state's clean energy goal. 3CE serves more than 400,000 customers throughout the Central Coast, including agricultural, commercial and residential customers in communities located within Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz counties.

January 2021 Enrollment of 9 Communities

3CE "flipped the switch" in January for 100,000 customers throughout the Central Coast, commemorating the occasion with a [Flip the Switch Press Event](#). 3CE happily reports a 98% participation rate in the nine enrolling areas. 3CE has conducted over 40 community presentations and dozens of virtual office hours and community workshops to support a successful enrollment.

3CE Energy Programs Deployment

As part of 3CE's approved \$6.3 million energy program budget, two unique programs launched recently: the New Construction Electrification Program and the Ag Electrification Grant Program.

New Construction Electrification Grant Program

3CE launched the [New Construction Electrification Program](#) (NCEP) to provide incentives for housing developers to develop all-electric housing projects in 3CE's service area. Under this program, homeowners who lost their homes during the 2020 wildfires in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties also have an opportunity to receive incentives to rebuild their homes all-electric.

- **Developer Incentive Track:** 3CE is conducting a competitive 45-day application period for housing developers to apply for funding through the NCEP. The total budget for developer incentives is \$2.08 million. A total of 75% or more of program funds is reserved for income-qualified housing units to support local affordable housing development efforts across the region. Incentive amounts are set at \$2,500 per affordable housing unit and \$1,500 per market-rate housing unit. Single housing projects/developments can receive up to \$240,000 per project through the NCEP grant.
- **Homeowner Rebuild Track:** Total program funds reserved for homeowner rebuilds amount to \$125,000. Homeowners will receive a \$5,000 incentive payment upon completion of a single-family home, or \$2,500 per unit for a multifamily-unit dwelling rebuild. Homeowners may also elect to install a Level 2 electric vehicle charger for their home to receive an additional incentive: \$600 for a single-family home or \$1,000 per MUD unit.

Ag Electrification Grant Program

3CE launched the second iteration of its [Ag Electrification Grant Program](#), this time with a program budget of \$400,000. This competitive grant application will be open for a 60-day period, closing on March 26. Applicants can apply for 80% of the total project cost, up to \$20,000, to replace traditional diesel irrigation pumps, tractors, and other ag-related equipment with all-electric options.

CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY ENERGY (cont.)

3CE Seeks Local Renewables Projects and Storage

3CE issued in January a [request for proposals](#) to solicit local renewable energy resources and/or energy storage resources within its service area across the Central Coast. Customers, landowners, and developers are welcome to review the RFP and submit a bid for potential projects of at least 20 MW for locally sited clean and renewable energy (can include storage) or stand-alone energy storage systems of 1 MW or larger without the need for entitlements or a position in the California Independent System Operator queue for interconnection.

The RFP for locally sited clean and renewable power supply and stand-alone energy storage is designed to explore two possible scenarios:

1. Electricity generation from renewable source(s) with storage (if applicable) of 20 MW or more through an agreement of 10 years or more.
2. Stand-alone energy storage system of 1 MW or larger of at least 5 years or longer.

The delivery date or commercial on-line date (COD) for proposed projects will be no later than December 31, 2026.



3CE is electrifying the Ag industry by incentivizing new all-electric agricultural equipment

400k

Funding for 3CE's Ag Electrification Grant Program totals \$400k and available to all 3CE customers in the Tri-County, SLO and Santa Barbara.

20k

Recipients of the award will receive up to 80% of the total project cost (not to exceed \$20k) to assist with "fuel-switching" of agricultural equipment.

8%

The Ag Industry makes up 8% of CA's GHG emissions. Due to this impact, 3CE's agricultural partners have communicated an interest to invest in cleaner technology

Improving air quality for surrounding communities and farm workers by reducing local GHG emissions

For more information about Ag Electrification Programs, visit 3cenergy.org/ag-electrification



WINTER 2021

CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE

Launched in 2018, Clean Power Alliance serves approximately 1 million customer accounts in 32 communities across Los Angeles and Ventura counties. During this time, CPA has grown to provide 100% renewable energy to more customers than any other energy provider in the nation.

CPA Supports Biden Administration's Actions on Climate Change

President Joe Biden took immediate action on climate change by issuing an executive order to rejoin the Paris Agreement on his first day in office, followed by many executive actions to further tackle the climate crisis, create jobs, and restore scientific integrity across the federal government.

With climate change being one of the most crucial issues facing humanity, it is paramount that our nation be among the leaders at the global level, just as CPA is leading at the local level by offering more 100% renewable energy plans than any other electricity provider in the nation.

By partnering with its member agencies, CPA looks forward to supporting President Biden in his fight against climate change, while continuing to advance sustainable communities by offering clean power at competitive rates and reinvesting revenues in its communities.

CPA Joins Virtual Celebration of New Rosamond Central Solar Project

CPA joined Clearway Energy Group and other partners on February 3 to mark the commencement of operations for the new solar project, Rosamond Central. The 192 MW project created more than 600 construction jobs and will generate enough clean energy to power more than 71,000 homes each year.

"We're excited to have energy projects like Rosamond come on line and start serving our customers with clean energy that will maintain long-term rate stability. This project has given us the opportunity to create much-needed jobs and allowed us to meet California's ambitious renewable energy goals 10 years early," said Natasha Keefer, CPA's director of power planning and procurement.



Rosamond Central solar project's virtual ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The virtual event featured many speakers, including CPA Executive Director Ted Bardacke. Rosamond Central is located just north of Lancaster in Kern County, and was developed by Clearway Energy Group. The project is contracted under power purchase agreements with CPA, East Bay Community Energy and the City of Palo Alto Utilities.

To check out the project's commencement video, visit <https://vimeo.com/507681850>.

CLEANPOWERSF

CleanPowerSF offers renewable, affordable and accessible electricity to more than 380,000 residential and business accounts in San Francisco. To date, CleanPowerSF has contracted 467 MW of new wind and solar projects in California and signed three solar-plus-battery-storage contracts. In 2021, CleanPowerSF expects to deliver at least 50% renewables portfolio standard-eligible renewable energy for its default Green product.

New California Solar Investment Comes On Line

CleanPowerSF's [previous power purchase commitment for a new solar center in Blythe](#) came on line and began serving CleanPowerSF customers this winter. Blythe Solar IV, a 62 MW photovoltaic solar energy center, created approximately 150 construction jobs during its development. As a result of this contract, NextEra, the project developer, delivered financial support to the local community in Riverside County to help address the economic impacts of COVID-19. The social impact benefits resulting from the CleanPowerSF/Next Era contract are the subject of a [recent Community Energy Innovation webinar](#).

CleanPowerSF Earns High A2 Investment Rating

In December, [CleanPowerSF received an A2 investment grade rating from Moody's Investors Service](#). Moody's rating of A2 indicates that CleanPowerSF has a strong capacity to meet its financial obligations and that such financial obligations are subject to low credit risk. The first-time credit rating is one of the highest such assessments for programs in California's Community Choice Aggregation community. With this rating, CleanPowerSF can continue to provide low-cost, effective power services that meet San Francisco's ambitious climate action goals.

DESERT COMMUNITY ENERGY

Desert Community Energy began serving customers in early 2020 and provides service to over 40,000 accounts. The Palm Springs City Council unanimously voted to default all accounts to DCE's 100% Carbon Free plan. In doing so, Palm Springs is effectively cutting its carbon emissions equivalent to taking 15,000 cars off the road. For those customers that are concerned with lower costs, DCE offers the Desert Saver plan, which has saved customers almost \$200,000 in the first six months of service.

Long-Term Wind Energy Contracts

[DCE in February signed its first long-term renewables contracts](#) with Terra-Gen, LLC to purchase wind energy, locally sourced from the Palm Springs area. A contract for solar plus battery storage is in progress.

'CHOICE' WORDS

"In California, where the electric grid powers the world's fifth-largest economy with 80% renewable energy at times, calls are growing louder for the state to accelerate its current zero-carbon target date of 2045. And California's fastest-growing retail power suppliers, local government-run community choice aggregators, or CCAs, are well ahead of the curve." —[Calif. aggregators set pace for U.S. energy transition, S&P Global, 2.3.21](#)

WINTER 2021

EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY

Launched in 2018, East Bay Community Energy serves approximately 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 Commits to 100% Clean Energy by 2030

On December 16, EBCE's board of directors approved a [policy](#) to set a target of providing its nearly 1.7 million East Bay customers with 100% clean power by 2030—a full 15 years before the state's energy standard. This policy also recognizes the need for bold action to fight climate change while addressing the needs of the community.

The board action sets EBCE as one of the largest electricity providers in the country to commit to 100% clean power by 2030—and the largest of other local community choice energy providers that have set similar goals.

EBCE's First Utility-Scale Solar Project Now Operating

Clearway Energy Group announced that it completed construction and reached commercial operation on the 192 MW Rosamond Central solar project in Kern County. Rosamond Central is contracted under PPAs with EBCE and Clean Power Alliance, both Community Choice Aggregators providing a diverse range of power options to regional customers, and the City of Palo Alto Utilities, which has administered Palo Alto's electric power system for 120 years. Watch a flyover video of the project [here](#).

"This marks the first new utility-scale solar project built to serve EBCE customers with clean, affordable, renewable energy," said EBCE CEO Nick Chaset. "EBCE's 112 MW from this project lays the foundation of our portfolio of projects that will serve our electricity customers throughout Alameda County."

Construction of Rosamond Central began in February 2020 and was led by McCarthy Building Companies. More than 600 jobs were created during construction, and the site will sustain several permanent operations and maintenance jobs. The solar site also represents a \$5 million investment in Kern County through tax revenue to support area public services, and will generate enough clean energy to power more than 71,000 homes each year.

Three Cities Join EBCE Service in April 2021

EBCE is expanding, as the cities of Tracy, Pleasanton and Newark will begin energy service with EBCE in April. With the addition of these areas, EBCE now serves all of Alameda County, with the exception of the City of Alameda, which has its own municipal utility. Tracy is in San Joaquin County.

The three cities have a combined population of 222,000, with 75,719 new customer accounts for EBCE. This will boost the number of EBCE customers by 13.7%, increasing EBCE's electricity demand just over 1 terawatt-hour (billion kilowatt-hours), or an 18.3% increase (assuming none opt out of EBCE service). Almost 90% of new customers are in the residential sector, accounting for about 40% percent of new power demand. About half of the new load comes from just over 1,000 large customers.

The three cities should feel right at home with EBCE's efforts to promote local clean energy resources like rooftop solar, battery backup and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

The three cities are home to almost 4,000 electric vehicles, according to state EV rebate data, as well as 10,000 rooftop solar systems. In Tracy, one out of six customers has gone solar.

LANCASTER CHOICE ENERGY

Launched in 2015, LCE serves approximately 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.

Restaurant Rescue Package Program

In an effort to assist Lancaster's struggling restaurants, breweries and wineries during the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Lancaster's Real Estate & Economic Development Division launched the aptly named Restaurant Rescue Package. Approved by the City Council in early December, the program offers qualifying businesses a variety of relief incentives to join the program. One of the added incentives is a Lancaster Choice Energy bill credit which is applied to 100% of a customer's LCE generation charges on their next two electric billing cycles. The credit is applied on the bill on which the charge appears, thus netting a \$0.00 balance due for generation charges for the given service period. The program runs now through February 28. [Click here](#) for more information.

2020 Annual NEM True-Up

LCE processed two rounds of Net Energy Metering True-Up in early December, and distributed over \$134,000 in rebates to over 800 Personal Choice customers.

MCE

As California's first Community Choice Aggregation Program, MCE offers cleaner, locally controlled, cost-competitive electricity options for more than 1 million residents and businesses in 36 Bay Area communities across Contra Costa, Napa, Marin and Solano counties. MCE provides customers with twice the amount of clean energy compared to traditional electricity service and is 90% greenhouse gas-free. For more information about MCE's services, visit mceCleanEnergy.org.

Announcing the MCE Little Bear Project

MCE and Longroad Energy partnered together to create 160 MW of new solar power at the [Little Bear solar complex](#) located in Fresno County. The four separate solar facilities represent MCE's largest collection of solar projects to date and began commercial operation in December. The Little Bear solar complex was designed to utilize land that was disturbed or previously degraded, while supporting new jobs during the construction phase and providing clean energy for 65,000 homes each year.



Little Bear solar complex. (Photo courtesy of Longroad Energy)

WINTER 2021

MCE (cont.)

Building Capacity for a Clean Energy Future

Since MCE began serving customers in 2010, it has made bold and consistent efforts to increase access to clean energy services and technologies that support California's energy and capacity needs. Most recently, MCE has focused on providing clean resource adequacy to its customers, including:

- MCE's Wellhead project that pairs a lithium-ion battery with a natural gas facility, reducing GHG emissions while increasing the facility's efficiency and responsiveness;
- Its Clean Resource Adequacy request for offers, soliciting renewable energy resources and storage methods to meet capacity requirements for customers; and
- Its joint Long-Duration Storage RFO, representing the largest single procurement effort in California for long-duration energy storage.

Learn more about MCE's clean RA efforts in a [recent blog post](#).

MCE's Community Reinvestment

Since launching service in 2010, MCE has [reinvested over \\$180 million](#) in the communities it serves through customer programs, workforce development and energy cost savings. This reinvestment includes over \$81.6 million in local renewable energy projects that include prevailing-wage and 50% local-hire requirements, and \$6.75 million toward energy resiliency efforts like installation of battery storage at critical facilities.

PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY

Launched in 2016, Peninsula Clean Energy serves approximately 295,000 customers in San Mateo County, maintaining a 97% participation rate of eligible customers. PCE offers two service options: ECOplus, with 50% renewable and 100% greenhouse gas-free energy, and ECO100, with 100% renewable energy that is Green-e certified. PCE plans to offer 100% renewable electricity for all customers by 2025.

Los Banos Joins Peninsula Clean Energy

Starting in 2022, PCE will begin sending power to Los Banos residents and businesses. Los Banos customers will receive solar power generated by the 200 MW Wright Solar Project, which is located just outside the city's boundaries and generates power exclusively for PCE customers. Los Banos residents will benefit from PCE's suite of community programs and the agency's goal of providing electricity that is 100% carbon-free by 2021 and 100% renewable by 2025. [Read more](#).

Contracts Signed for 245 MW of Wind

PCE has agreed to procure 245 MW of power from three California wind projects. This is a significant supplement to a growing portfolio of solar generation—including supply from the 200 MW [Wright Solar](#) and 100 MW [Mustang Two Whirlaway](#) projects—particularly during colder months and other times when solar power has traditionally waned. [Read more](#).

PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY (cont.)

Recognizing All-Electric Leaders

PCE has developed an awards program and directory to spotlight leadership and innovation in all-electric buildings, inviting designers, builders, developers and owners of all-electric residential and commercial buildings to submit projects. Eligible projects include categories of design, construction and operation. Projects are currently being reviewed and winners will be announced in the second quarter. There will be a \$3,000 award for the top commercial entry in each category and \$1,000 for the top residential entry in each category. These and other selected projects will be featured in a special section of the PCE website and on social media platforms. [Read more.](#)

Building Community Partnerships

PCE has established a number of partnerships with local organizations in the last quarter, awarding over \$400,000 in grants. These include:

- \$316,000 to 10 local organizations to enhance outreach to residents to help them get access to energy programs and save money on their energy bills
- \$92,000 to the San Mateo County Community College District to implement the [Energize Colleges](#) internship on its campuses



**From the Redwood Forests
to the Mojave Desert,**

CALPINE[®]

has California covered!

Learn more at Calpine.com

WINTER 2021

RANCHO MIRAGE ENERGY AUTHORITY

RMEA began serving the City of Rancho Mirage in 2018 and provides service to 18,000-plus 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. RMEA’s net energy metering program features a net surplus compensation rate of 6 cents per kWh.

Residential Solar Rebate Program

RMEA’s Residential Solar Rebate Program launched in July 2018, offering an incentive of a one-time \$500 rebate to any residential RMEA customer who installs a new solar system or expands an existing system. At the close of Q4 2020, RMEA processed a total of approximately 690 rebates, resulting in \$345,000 back to RMEA customers.

REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY

Launched in 2017, RCEA serves more than 63,000 customers in Humboldt County, Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Ferndale, Blue Lake, Rio Dell and Trinidad. RCEA offers “REpower” 40% renewable and “REpower+” 100% renewable and carbon-free energy service options.

Electric Vehicle Rebate

RCEA launched a public rebate for electric vehicles in December. The rebate, initially funded with \$50,000 from RCEA’s Community Choice Energy program, encourages EV purchases in Humboldt County to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program adds a local rebate to the state Clean Vehicle Rebate Project. RCEA customers are eligible for a rebate totaling 50% of whatever incentive amount they received from the CVRP.

Charging Station Upgrades with CALeVIP Funds

RCEA upgraded almost all existing EV charging sites with new equipment using California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project funds. The same funds are also helping RCEA expand its network: Four Level 2 ports were added in December, and 12 more ports are projected this year for Arcata and Eureka combined.

Carbon Offsets

RCEA purchased 25 metric tons of carbon offsets from the local Arcata Community Forest to cover its 2019 emissions associated with operations and travel. Arcata’s management plan emphasizes carbon sequestration by growing trees on extended rotations, designating reserves, and adding forest acres that could otherwise be developed.

Climate Action Planning

RCEA continues to collaborate on the Humboldt County 2030 Regional Climate Action Plan. Several exciting accomplishments include meeting with jurisdictions to solidify their GHG reduction objectives, composing the preliminary draft of the full report, developing adaptation and resilience measures for natural and working lands, locating funding for implementation efforts, determining a framework for treatment of Humboldt County’s vast carbon stocks, and scheduling increased engagement with local elected officials.



REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY (cont.)

Energy Month Panel Discussions

In recognition of Energy Month and in response to public concerns about recent local and state energy issues, RCEA hosted two sessions to engage the community in in-depth conversations about energy issues. In the first one, “Renewable and Doable: California Rises to the Clean Energy Challenge,” RCEA queried Karen Douglas of the California Energy Commission and Beth Vaughan of CalCCA about options at the state level. The second session, “Energy Reliability, Resilience, and Innovation in Humboldt County,” looked at local opportunities for sustainability.

RCEA Community Report

RCEA’s 2020 year in review is a 16-page report that details RCEA’s various programs, projects, accomplishments, leadership, strategic planning and coordination, power procurement, and messages from all of its directors. View the report [here](#).

SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY

San Jose Clean Energy serves approximately 345,000 customers in the City of San José (population 1.03 million). It launched service in February 2019 to most residents and businesses. SJCE’s total annual load is approximately 4 TWh and peak demand is approximately 1 GW. SJCE offers two service options: a default option, GreenSource, which is 40% renewable at rates competitive with PG&E’s, and a premium option, TotalGreen, that is 100% renewable.

SJCE Adds Wind to Its Renewable Energy Portfolio

In November, SJCE announced its latest long-term power purchase agreement for 225 MW of wind energy with developer Pattern Energy. The project will be built in New Mexico by the end of this year and will produce enough renewable energy to power nearly 186,000 San José homes.

This is SJCE’s fourth long-term PPA since launching service to most customers in February 2019. The 15-year PPA for wind energy diversifies SJCE’s portfolio and augments previous investments in new solar and battery storage. Due to the project’s location in New Mexico, its energy deliveries will generally increase earlier each day than local wind projects. It is also expected to help improve reliability by meeting customer demand during the crucial early evening hours when demand is high but renewable energy supply is typically low. More information about this investment is available in the [press release on SJCE’s website](#).

The Southern California Public Power Authority, on behalf of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, also signed a PPA with Pattern Energy for a wind project in New Mexico. Both projects will use the same transmission line to deliver clean energy to California electric customers.

Increasing Access to Clean Energy Technologies in San José

Last year, SJCE promoted two group-buy programs and hosted several community workshops to improve access to clean energy technologies and increase adoption in San José.

WINTER 2021

SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY (cont.)

Through the Drive Electric San José program, San José partnered with five local dealerships to offer up to \$3,000 in discounts on seven electric vehicle models. In partnership with Peninsula Family Service, SJCE and San José's Department of Transportation launched the DriveForward EV Financial Assistance program, which offered several free multilingual workshops and one-on-one counseling to help moderate- to low-income households purchase a new or used EV.

SJCE also partnered with Bay Area SunShares to offer discounts on solar and battery storage to San José households. Backup battery storage provides a line of defense against power shutoffs and can power vital medical equipment for vulnerable customers. In total, seven solar installation contracts have been signed (39 kW) and 11 battery storage units have been installed in San José.

SJCE will continue to design programs that promote equity, increase affordability, and support disadvantaged communities so that all San Joséans can benefit from renewable energy and electrification.

SJCE to Provide Bill Relief to Struggling Customers

Many San José residents are still feeling the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to accrue debt. In 2021, SJCE, in partnership with the City of San José's Emergency Operations Center, will provide residents with utility subsidies and conduct public outreach for CARE, FERA and the Arrearage Management Plan (AMP) to help residents reduce or eliminate past-due bills, as well as reduce their on-going monthly electricity charges.

SILICON VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Launched in April 2017, Silicon Valley Clean Energy serves 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.

SVCE Earns 'A' Credit Rating from S&P Global

In January, SVCE received an [A credit rating](#) from S&P Global. This credit rating, the second investment-grade credit rating for SVCE, reflects the assessment completed by S&P Global and speaks to SVCE's financial strength and robust energy risk-management policies.

The A rating will enable SVCE to negotiate new energy supply contracts at lower costs, resulting in lower energy rates for customers. It also offers further transparency for SVCE customers on the agency's financial standing. These benefits allow SVCE to continually offer clean, affordable energy while investing funds back into the communities it serves, with the overall goal of reducing emissions in the electricity, transportation and building sectors.

SVCE's first credit rating was Baa2 from [Moody's](#).

SILICON VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY (cont.)

Decarbonization in the Built Environment

The SVCE board of directors has adopted the [Building Decarbonization Joint Action Plan](#), which defines a set of prioritized actions for the agency and its members to reduce carbon pollution from buildings. The plan includes a \$6 million budget to be dispersed over three years through a set of building electrification programs and initiatives.

Buildings account for nearly one-third of regional greenhouse gas emissions in the SVCE service territory, and the plan puts funding and organizational support in place to properly assist communities in the transition to clean, all-electric buildings.

Supporting Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure in Silicon Valley

In 2020, SVCE launched a series of programs to accelerate the transition to EVs. \$8 million in funding from SVCE and \$6 million from the [California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project](#) (CALeVIP) has been dedicated to planning, technical assistance, and installation of new EV charging stations across SVCE's 13 member communities.

In addition to CALeVIP, SVCE has designed a suite of programs to address the priorities identified in the [EV Infrastructure Joint Action Plan](#):

- [FutureFit Assist: EV Charging](#) provides free assistance to municipalities, businesses, commercial property owners and multifamily residences through every step of the EV charger installation process.
- [Priority Zone DC Fast Charging Funding](#) provides financial incentives for DC fast charger deployment in or near areas with multifamily housing, so that fast charging can be conveniently accessed by apartment residents.
- [Silicon Valley Transportation Electrification Clearinghouse](#) (SVTEC) and [EV Regional Recognition](#) connect SVCE with key regional stakeholders to build an ecosystem to support rapid EV charger deployment by tackling tough barriers, sharing best practices, and connecting organizations with funding and technical support.



Electric vehicles charging at a paired-solar installation.

WINTER 2021

SONOMA CLEAN POWER

Sonoma Clean Power serves 227,000 accounts in Sonoma and Mendocino counties. SCP offers CleanStart 50% renewable/97% carbon-free electricity and EverGreen 100% local, renewable electricity. SCP enjoys an 87% participation rate. SCP's Mission: Turning the tide on the climate crisis, through bold ideas and practical programs.

Fighting Hunger in Our Communities

In 2020, SCP partnered with several food banks in its service territory to help feed neighbors in need, including Redwood Empire Food Bank, Fort Bragg Food Bank, Food for Thought Food Bank, North Coast Opportunities Caring Kitchen Project, and Willits Community Services & Food Bank. Two holiday-focused food drives with REFB yielded over 2,000 lbs. of food and raised \$500!

Electric Bike Program

This equity-focused program, planned to launch in March 2021, will provide incentives for up to 200 electric bicycles to low-income customers. In addition, SCP is partnering with local community-based organizations to conduct outreach, offer electric bike safety classes, and coordinate free helmet giveaways.

GridX

CLOUD BASED BILLING,
SETTLEMENT, &
RATE ANALYTICS
FOR COMMUNITY
CHOICE ENERGY

▶ WWW.GRIDX.COM



SONOMA CLEAN POWER (cont.)

School Storage and Solar Study

SCP has partnered with TerraVerde Energy to offer financial and technical feasibility assessments for battery storage systems, at no cost, to public K-12 schools in Sonoma and Mendocino counties with existing solar. Kick-off meetings are being held with the 16 school districts that have applied for a no-cost technical and financial feasibility assessment. The report will identify potential funding sources available to schools for installing a battery storage system.

GridSavvy Community

The GridSavvy Community—SCP's demand response umbrella of programs—continues to grow, with 3,421 smart devices deployed to customers and 970 customers actively participating in demand response events. SCP continues to dispatch EV chargers, smart thermostats, and heat pump water heaters to reduce peak customer load. In January, SCP was part of a team that was awarded a \$16 million California Energy Commission grant (GFO 19-309) for developing a flexible load hub. While negotiations with the CEC and team are expected to continue for several months, SCP hopes to deploy a portion of these funds to expand future GridSavvy offerings.

EverGreen Local Resource Public Workshops

With the addition of the City of Santa Rosa accounts as part of SCP's EverGreen program and with growing participation in general, staff is seeking public input for a new Local Resource Plan.

Staff held Public Workshop No. 1 on December 1. The workshop was focused on priorities for the EverGreen program and the Local Resource Plan. Public Workshop No. 2, held virtually on January 12, presented the more technical details of EverGreen customer demand, resource supply to match demand, modeling methodologies, and local resource supply considerations. A video recording of the workshop is posted on SCP's [website](#) and the presentation slide deck is available [through this link](#) or by request from the Clerk of the Board.

2020 Annual Report

SCP is pleased to highlight its progress toward a cleaner, inclusive, and more reliable energy future in its [2020 Annual Report](#).



CaICCA TIP

As of November, CCAs have signed 117 long-term power purchase agreements for more than 6,000 MW with new-build solar, wind, biogas, energy storage and geothermal. A map of CCA clean energy projects and a list of PPAs can be found here: <https://cal-cca.org/cca-renewable-energy-map-and-list-of-ppas/>.

WINTER 2021

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Valley Clean Energy launched in 2018 and serves over 62,000 customer accounts in the cities of Davis, Woodland, Winters and unincorporated Yolo County.

VCE Signs New Renewables Contracts

VCE signed several solar and solar-plus-storage contracts in the fall. Once the steel is in the ground (est. 2023), 62% of VCE's total load will be served with long-term renewable contracts. Two projects are local (in Winters and the Madison/Esparto area), and one contract contains a provision for \$200,000 for local workforce development programs.

Valley Clean Energy Donates to Winters Fire Relief Fund

In response to devastating fires in VCE's soon-to-be-enrolled City of Winters, VCE donated \$1,500 to the Winters Fire Relief Fund, which was used as an emergency fund for food, clothing and shelter costs for fire-affected families. VCE also publicized the fund on social media in order to elicit more community support.

VCE Completes Repayment of Startup Costs

In October, VCE made its final installment payment to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District for SMUD's assistance with operating services during VCE's launch in 2018. The \$1.5 million in deferred charges and interest was paid off on schedule, demonstrating VCE's financial discipline while still offering clean electricity at competitive rates.

WESTERN COMMUNITY ENERGY

Western Community Energy launched in May 2020 and serves approximately 112,000 residential and business customers in Riverside County in the cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Perris and Wildomar. WCE offers two renewable energy products: the "Choice Plan" (37% renewable energy) and the "Choice Plus Plan," in which customers can opt up to receive 100% green energy.

Enrollment Completed

In December, WCE completed its mass enrollment process which began in April 2020. The initial enrollment occurred in two phases in April and May. Solar net energy metering customers were then enrolled in three quarterly phases to align with annual true-ups, minimizing customer confusion. That process concluded in October. WCE's current participation rate is 92% with approximately 112,000 being served.

Online Bill Comparison Tool

A Bill Comparison Tool is live on WCE's website as of November 30. This new tool allows WCE residential and small commercial customers to calculate costs based on actual usage for specific rates. The tool helps customers better understand what their bills would look like under various electric rate options, as well as comparing costs to what a Southern California Edison bundled customer would have paid. The tool can be viewed at <https://westerncommunityenergy.com/billing-and-rates/>.

WCE Utility Assistance Program

In January, the WCE board of directors took action to implement community support during the COVID-19 pandemic by approving a WCE Utility Assistance Program that will provide a one-time \$25 bill credit to income-qualified WCE customers impacted by COVID-19.

CALCCA MEMBERS

- [Apple Valley Choice Energy](#)
- [Baldwin Park Resident Owned Utility District](#)
- [Central Coast Community Energy](#)
- [Clean Energy Alliance](#)
- [Clean Power Alliance](#)
- [CleanPowerSF](#)
- [Desert Community Energy](#)
- [East Bay Community Energy](#)
- [Lancaster Choice Energy](#)
- [MCE](#)
- [Peninsula Clean Energy](#)
- [Pico Rivera Innovative Municipal Energy](#)
- [Pioneer Community Energy](#)
- [Pomona Choice Energy](#)
- [Rancho Mirage Energy Authority](#)
- [Redwood Coast Energy Authority](#)
- [San Diego Community Power](#)
- [San Jacinto Power](#)
- [San Jose Clean Energy](#)
- [Silicon Valley Clean Energy](#)
- [Solana Energy Alliance](#)
- [Sonoma Clean Power](#)
- [Valley Clean Energy](#)
- [Western Community Energy](#)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- [City of Corona](#)
- [City of Hermosa Beach](#)
- [King City Conservation District](#)
- [Orange County Power Authority](#)

On the Cover



The 57.5 MW Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center near Livermore, in East Bay Community Energy's service area. The project, named after EBCE's former board chair, is set to go live in the second quarter of 2021. It replaces 569, 100 Kw turbines with 23, 2.5 MW turbines. Photo credit: Salka Energy



California Community Choice Association
2300 Clayton Road | Suite 1150 | Concord, CA 94520
info@cal-cca.org | cal-cca.org