CALIFORNIA AGGREGATOR

The Quarterly Report of the California Community Choice Association

INSIDE:
• CalCCA welcomes new staff to policy team
• CCAs power up in San Diego area
• 2021 annual meeting: it's on!
“It’s the simple things in life that are the most extraordinary.”— Paulo Coelho

After more than a year of pandemic sheltering, we are truly starting to feel the warm embrace of spring and an approaching summer that promises what was seemingly unattainable a short time ago: normalcy. It’s the simple things that I have missed most—get-togethers with family, friends and colleagues; traveling; live entertainment; and so many other staples of life that I now hold precious.

But one thing that could never be described as simple is California’s energy landscape. Admittedly, the growing popularity of CCAs bears some responsibility for the complexity of today’s electric sector. The first aggregator, MCE, initiated service 11 years ago. Today, there are 24 community choice energy providers serving more than 11 million customers in 200+ cities and counties throughout California.

While the growth of CCA is widely viewed as a welcome sign of the sector’s evolution, not everyone sees it that way. I hear a distinct sigh of frustration emanating from 505 Van Ness every time a new CCA launches. We’re frustrated, too. The fact is that many electricity policies in California were put into place long ago and no longer reflect current market realities. One policy area, that of investor-owned utility legacy energy resources, is particularly concerning in that CCA customers are paying for these resources but do not get fair access to the benefits they pay for.

We were obviously disappointed at the CPUC’s recent decision in the PCIA proceeding. While the commission adopted a key element of the proposal that requires the IOUs to open up access to renewable energy benefits to all customers who pay for those benefits, it denied provisions of the proposal that would have allowed equitable access to resource-adequacy benefits and punted consideration of a GHG-free benchmark to a future proceeding.

The decision reflects a systematic practice of prioritizing bundled IOU customers over CCA customers when it comes to the treatment of legacy costs. In the meantime, Senate Bill 612, CalCCA-sponsored legislation that advances equitable access and cost savings, is making its way through the Legislature. When it comes to ratepayer equity, it’s definitely time for some spring cleaning.

Stay well,

Beth Vaughan
Executive Director, CalCCA

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**California CCA: By the Numbers**

- Number of California communities served by CCAs: 203
- Number of Counties with CCA: 18 of 58 Counties (31%)
- Number of Cities/Towns with CCA: 185 of 482 Cities (38%)
- California population served by CCAs: 11 Million+ (27%)
QUICK TAKES

• CalCCA is excited to announce we’ve added three new staff members to the association’s in-house team: Eric Little (director of regulatory affairs), Leanne Bober (senior policy analyst) and Lauren Carr (senior market policy analyst). Please join us in welcoming Eric, Leanne and Lauren!

• California’s newest Community Choice Energy programs, Clean Energy Alliance (Carlsbad, Del Mar and Solana Beach) and San Diego Community Power (Chula Vista, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, La Mesa and San Diego), flipped the switch on CCA service in May and April, respectively. With the additions of CEA and SDCP there are now 24 operational CCAs serving more than 11 million customers in California.

• Save the date! CalCCA is planning to host an in-person/hybrid annual meeting this year! The event will take place November 29 to December 1 in San José and will include a welcome reception, workshops, plenary sessions, and lots of networking opportunities. Details on the meeting program and sponsorship opportunities to come soon.

• CalCCA is sponsoring Senate Bill 612, which requires that California electric ratepayers have fair and equal access to benefits associated with investor-owned utility legacy energy resources and that the resources are actively managed to maximize their value. More than 100 cities, counties, elected leaders, renewable energy providers, community groups and individuals have signed on to support SB 612. It passed both the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee and was headed for a Senate floor vote as of this writing.

Join our Partner Program!

CalCCA partners strengthen their connection to the CCA community through exclusive event, networking, and information-sharing opportunities. Eligible partners may include vendors, suppliers, developers, service providers, nonprofit organizations, trade associations, or individuals that provide services to or work in coordination with California CCAs. There are four partner levels to choose from – Capstone, Executive, Select, and Supporting – each offering ways to raise a partner’s profile in a large and growing segment of California’s electric sector.

For more information about the CalCCA Partner Program visit cal-cca.org/about/partners.
CalCCA leaders were featured speakers at these recent events:


CalCCA Vice President and Clean Power Alliance Executive Director Ted Bardacke and Pioneer Community Energy Chief Operations Officer Sam Kang testified at a Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee hearing on April 26 to express support for SB 612, a CalCCA-sponsored bill. The committee approved SB 612 with a 11–1 vote. A recording of the hearing is here.

CalCCA Executive Director Beth Vaughan was a featured speaker at the California Foundation of the Environment and Economy (CFEE) Energy Summit on April 23 in Napa. Beth participated in a roundtable discussion—“How Are We Planning for Future Reliability and Resiliency of our Energy Supply?”—along with Ed Randolph/CPUC, Hunter Stern/IBEW Local 1245, and Travis Kavulla/NRG Energy.

Beth was in Lancaster and Palmdale for a CFEE “Best of California” field trip on April 2, where she provided an overview of CCA in California before handing the mic to Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris. California Choice Energy Authority (CalChoice) Executive Director Jason Caudle and General Manager Cathy DeFalco also spoke at the event.

On March 9, Beth provided introductory remarks and a CCA overview at the Orange County Power Authority’s “Energy 101 Workshop.” The event featured many CCA leaders who shared their experiences and insights on launching and operating community choice energy programs in California. OCPA, which includes the Cities of Buena Park, Fullerton, Huntington Beach and Irvine, is prepping to launch a CCA program in 2022.

CalCCA President and Redwood Coast Energy Authority Executive Director Matthew Marshall on February 26 was a presenter at CalCCA’s Community Energy Innovation webinar, “Ocean of Opportunity: The Latest on Offshore Wind Energy Development in California.” Walt Musial/National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Tyler Studds/Ocean Winds joined Matthew in describing how CCAs are helping to advance offshore wind energy in California. A recording of the webinar and presentation slides are here.
Launched in 2017 by the cities of Lancaster and San Jacinto, the California Choice Energy Authority (CalChoice) helps cities in Southern California Edison territory participate in Community Choice Aggregation. CCA programs associated with CalChoice include Lancaster Choice Energy (LCE), San Jacinto Power (SJP), Apple Valley Choice Energy (AVCE), Baldwin Park Resident Owned Utility District (BPROUD), Pico Rivera Innovative Municipal Energy (PRIME), Pomona Choice Energy (Pomona Choice) and Rancho Mirage Energy Authority (RMEA).

**CalChoice Celebrates Four-Year Anniversary**
CalChoice is celebrating its four-year anniversary this year. Since its inception, CalChoice has remained a leader in helping local governments throughout Southern California implement CCA programs for their communities.

**Wells Joins CalChoice as Energy Programs Manager**
This February, CalChoice welcomed Kathy Wells to the position of energy programs manager, where she will research, implement and manage programs for the benefit of CalChoice and its associate members. She also will serve as CalChoice’s representative on several CalCCA committees. In 2015, Wells helped launch Lancaster Choice Energy, the City of Lancaster’s Community Choice Aggregation program and the first program of its kind in Southern California.

**Executive Director Featured in PublicCEO Report**
Jason Caudle, CalChoice executive director and City of Lancaster city manager, discusses his career, the benefits of CCA programs, and CalChoice’s hybrid joint powers authority model during the ninth episode of the PublicCEO Report.

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.

**3CE Energy Programs Update**

**EV Incentive Program:** 3CE launched Electrify Your Ride, offering customers rebates for the purchase or lease of new or used electric vehicles. Total funding available is $700,000 and incentive amounts are doubled for income-qualified customers. The program runs from February 2021 through the end of June 2021. To date, 104 applications have already been processed.
EV Charger Program: 3CE launched Charge Your Ride, offering homeowner and multifamily property owner customers rebates for EV chargers. 3CE is also incentivizing required electrical work to install EV chargers, including uprating or replacing electrical service panels. Total funding available is $295,000. The program is designed to cover the majority of costs for a charger and associated electrical work.

Electrification Education Grant Program: 3CE seeks innovative projects and programs to help raise awareness around the concept of electrification, dedicating $260,000 to educate communities, trade groups, laborers and more with the goal of locally increasing the adoption of transportation and building electrification through education.

3CE Local Renewable Project Update 3CE issued a solicitation seeking renewable, renewable-plus-storage and stand-alone energy storage projects within its service area. The solicitation accounted for barriers for local developers to site affordable projects to increase likelihood of local developer participation. The results: seven shortlisted projects throughout 3CE’s Central Coast service area by four developers, two of which are local developers. Shortlisted projects include 100 MW of solar and 110 MW of storage.

New Renewable Power Purchase Agreements 3CE has contracted for a total of over 650 MW of clean and renewable energy with 140 MW of energy storage, including three recently executed large-scale power purchase agreements as part of its commitment to reach 60% clean and renewable energy by 2025 and 100% by 2030. The three new projects emerge out of 3CE’s most recent large-scale renewable energy solicitation in partnership with Silicon Valley Clean Energy.

Three Years of Serving Customers 3CE recently celebrated three years of serving communities. Taking a moment to reflect on accomplishments since its March 1, 2018, launch of service, 3CE thanked its customers spanning 33 communities for their support, which ultimately made the agency’s accomplishments possible. Most notable achievements include 3CE’s expansion throughout the Central Coast from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara County; the agency’s adoption of its pathway to 100% clean and renewable energy through new renewable sources by 2030; and earning its S&P Global “A” credit rating.

California Community Power (CC Power) 3CE in partnership with nine other California Community Choice Energy agencies formed a joint powers agency allowing its members to combine their buying power and enhance their negotiating power to procure new cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources. California Community Power’s first major joint procurement is for 500 MW of long-term and long-duration energy storage lasting eight hours or more.
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 Proudly Presents 2020 Impact Report
CPA recently released its 2020 Impact Report, documenting the organization’s overall impact throughout the year to the customers and communities it serves. CPA is proud to lead the nation in providing 100% clean power, but it is really the impact we have on the millions of people we serve that excites us the most. We hope you will enjoy reading the report and come away inspired by all that our employees, stakeholders and customers have been able to accomplish together in our short history, as we continue to lay a strong foundation for many more positive environmental impacts to come.

The report focuses on four key areas: Supplying Reliable Clean Power, Customer and Environmental Benefits, Investing in Our Communities, and Building a Self-Sustaining Organization. Here are five of CPA’s many proud moments/accomplishments from last year:

• CPA became the nation’s leading provider of 100% renewable energy, enabling it to meet California’s ambitious electricity goals 10 years early.
• More than 80% of CPA customers, totaling approximately 800,000 households and businesses or over 2.5 million people, received at least 50% renewable energy content with CPA’s Clean Power and 100% Green Power rate plans.
• CPA committed $2 million to COVID-19 relief, providing more than 77,000 financially impacted residential and commercial customers with electricity bill assistance. It also launched the Power Share program, which provides 20% discounts to qualified customers located in disadvantaged communities.
• CPA contracted for 715 MW of new battery storage, making it one of the top three energy storage purchasers throughout California. More than 890,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions were avoided due to CPA customers’ and communities’ collective choices. This is enough to power 162,000 homes per year.

New Geothermal Contract Means More Clean, Reliable Energy
During its May 6 meeting, the CPA board of directors approved its first long-term geothermal contract. The contract, with the Heber South Geothermal facility located in Imperial County, is the 13th long-term renewable energy contract the board has approved since CPA’s inception, with Heber South being the first geothermal contract added to the growing list.

The addition of Heber South will contribute to CPA’s greenhouse gas emission-reduction goals and enhance overall reliability for CPA’s more than 1 million Southern California customer accounts. When the contract takes effect January 1, 2022, the facility will add 14 MW of renewable energy to CPA’s already diverse energy portfolio, enough to power 19,400 homes for one year.

The Heber South geothermal project is located within a disadvantaged community, providing workforce opportunities and community benefits to the region. The project will support 10 permanent jobs from its ongoing operation via this contract with CPA. Read CPA’s recent Heber South Geothermal press release here.
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. CleanPowerSF delivers at least 50% Renewables Portfolio Standard-eligible renewable energy for its default Green product.

CleanPowerSF Reaches Renewable Energy Goals Ahead of Schedule
CleanPowerSF marked Earth Day in a big way. On April 22, Mayor London Breed declared San Francisco would achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2045, five years ahead of schedule! CleanPowerSF is playing a big part in making this possible. We also publicly announced all our customers will be powered with 100% renewable energy by 2025. The transition to 100% renewable energy is five years ahead of CleanPowerSF’s initial goal of 2030 and 20 years ahead of California’s projected timeline.

New Wind Project Powering CleanPowerSF Customers
Since March, a newly refurbished wind project called Voyager Wind IV in Southern California has begun to power CleanPowerSF customers. This project is just one of numerous commitments CleanPowerSF has recently made to new renewable energy projects in the Bay Area and California. It also contracted with a new solar-plus-battery-storage facility in Alameda County, and extended its contract with The Geysers geothermal facility in Sonoma County through 2029. Learn more about our energy sources here.

CaLCCA TIP

Our popular Community Energy Innovation webinars focus on CCA projects and programs in areas such as energy resilience, customer programs, load management and power procurement. Information on upcoming webinars and recordings of past ones can be found here: cal-cca.org/webinars.
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 12,000 cars off the road each month.

**Local Long-Term Wind Energy Contracts**
In February, DCE signed its first long-term renewables contracts totaling 33 MW with Terra-Gen LLC to purchase wind energy, locally sourced from within the city limits of Palm Springs. These power purchase agreements will help DCE meet its long-term contracting compliance requirements, its broader Renewables Portfolio Standard procurement requirements, and its program goals of building a carbon-free and significantly renewable energy resource mix. The procurement will also give DCE customers a more cost-effective source of renewable power than buying on the short-term market. And the energy is supplied from projects in our local community.

**Long-Term Solar + Battery Storage Contracts**
DCE finalized its first solar-plus-battery-storage PPA with Vesper Energy for the Deer Creek 50 MW solar/200 MWh storage project in Tulare County. The battery energy storage component of the Deer Creek project will help to manage the intermittent nature of solar energy being supplied onto the grid, thus helping with grid reliability. This is the first solar-plus-battery-storage contract entered into by DCE. The agreement will help DCE meet a primary goal of providing carbon-free energy to its customers in the city of Palm Springs while helping the state fight climate change and meet the mandate that 100% of California’s electricity come from carbon-free resources by 2045.

**Bill Assistance Program**
To help DCE customers who are experiencing economic distress related to COVID-19, the DCE board approved a bill assistance program that is modeled after similar initiatives by other California CCAs. While penalties and shutoffs are prohibited due to the moratorium, past-due balances still must be repaid when the moratorium ends in June. The program will provide modest but immediate bill relief, while steering particularly vulnerable customers toward sustained forms of help, including those who are requesting assistance for the first time. At the same time, it encourages these customers, through enrollment in a payment plan and the automatic application of a bill credit, to access available forms of financial assistance.
Launched in 2018, East Bay Community Energy serves approximately 635,000 customers in the cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Tracy and Union City. The unincorporated areas of Alameda County are also served by EBCE.

**EBCE Now Serves All of Alameda County Except the City of Alameda**

In April, residences and businesses in Newark, Pleasanton and Tracy began receiving EBCE’s electricity service. The cities of Newark and Tracy have selected Bright Choice (offering 1% savings compared with Pacific Gas & Electric rates) as their default service level, while Pleasanton customers will be enrolled in Brilliant 100 (100% carbon-free energy from wind, solar and hydropower priced at parity with PG&E), with the exception of customers on California Alternate Rates for Energy, Family Electric Rate Assistance or medical baseline discounts (who will be placed on Bright Choice). The three cities have a combined population of 222,000, with potentially 75,719 new customer accounts for EBCE.

**EBCE and OhmConnect Sign Innovative DR-Backed Peak Energy Hedge Agreement**

EBCE and Resi-Station, a virtual power plant developed and managed by OhmConnect, a home energy management company that pays residents to save energy, have signed an agreement that will empower residential consumers in California to help stabilize the electric grid when power is most expensive and the grid is most vulnerable. The transaction engages OhmConnect’s more than 150,000 active customers to lower energy consumption in the evenings, when abundant solar generation in California wanes. EBCE in turn can rely on OhmConnect to work with its subscribers to reduce consumption at critical times, which helps EBCE to manage California Independent System Operator market energy costs during these more expensive and more polluting hours. Additional information can be found [here](#).

**EBCE Transitions Customers to Time-of-Use Rate Plans**

In May, residential customers throughout Alameda County who are on a flat-rate plan (tiered or volume-based) were placed on time-of-use rates. TOU rate plans charge customers based on when they use electricity. The default residential plan, E-TOU-C, has peak rates from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. By shifting some electricity usage to non-peak hours when energy costs less (and is typically less polluting), customers can lower their bills and support a healthier environment. The transition for residential customers in Tracy is planned for February 2022. This transition, happening for EBCE and PG&E customers alike, is part of California’s statewide initiative to ensure greater power reliability and cleaner energy. PG&E and EBCE are sending several notification letters to all customers with more information.

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**‘CHOICE’ WORDS**

“When they first emerged in the 1990s, [CCAs] were mostly used to negotiate lower electricity rates; in states like Ohio and Illinois, that’s still the primary goal for many CCAs. But in California, CCAs started to use them explicitly to forward climate goals.” —Americans want more renewable energy. Can ‘community choice’ help them get it? National Geographic, 4.20.21
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, Marin, Napa and Solano counties. MCE provides customers with almost twice the amount of renewable energy compared with traditional electricity service, and its supply is 90% greenhouse gas-free. Learn more about MCE in a recent feature in National Geographic.

California, MCE and the Texas Energy Crisis
The recent energy crisis in Texas has sparked many questions from MCE customers about the reliability of California’s electric grid and their bill costs. To help customers better understand the differences between the events in Texas and in California, view a recent Op-Ed from MCE Chief Operating Officer Vicken Kasarjian.

MCE’s New Cost-Relief Program for Customers
At MCE’s March board of directors meeting, the board approved a $10 million cost-relief program for vulnerable residential and small business customers. The program launched April 1 and is offering additional monthly bill credits for residential and small business customers. MCE has also developed a comprehensive summary of local COVID-19 relief resources for residential and small business customers.

MCE Earns Third Credit Rating from S&P
On March 4, S&P awarded MCE a credit rating of “A” with a stable outlook. This new rating is MCE’s third credit rating, following a Baa2 rating from Moody’s in May 2018 and an upgraded BBB+ rating from Fitch Ratings in August 2020. S&P’s “A” rating was awarded to MCE for its diverse customer base and power supply portfolio, robust financial performance, and strong liquidity.

Announcing MCE’s 2021 Open Season Solicitation
MCE is pleased to announce its upcoming 2021 Open Season procurement process. For the first time, MCE’s Open Season encourages suppliers to include community benefits and equity metrics when submitting offers. While these optional elements are not required, MCE will prioritize offers that include them, consistent with MCE’s Sustainable Workforce and Diversity Policy.

MCE’s New Demand FLEXmarket Program
MCE is pleased to announce the launch of the Demand FLEXmarket, a first-of-its-kind marketplace program platform. Created in partnership with Recurve, the Demand FLEXmarket provides direct payment to vendors who engage MCE’s customers with energy-efficiency and peak-load management services, including demand response. Learn more about the program in these recent articles in Canary Media and T&D World.

Continuing Energy Innovation
MCE’s work in energy innovation continues through its electric vehicle and energy resilience programs. A recent award to MCE of the California Energy Commission’s EV Ready Communities Implementation Grant, in partnership with Contra Costa Transportation Authority and the cities of Concord, Pittsburg, Richmond and San Pablo, will further invest in electric transportation, adding to MCE’s $6 million commitment that has helped install 857 Level 2 charging ports to date. MCE’s Energy Storage program is working with the County of Marin to install a 660 kWh battery project at the Marin Exhibit Hall to provide critical energy backup needs. The project is receiving gap funding through MCE’s Resiliency Fund, and was approved for funding through the California Public Utilities Commission’s Self-Generation Incentive Program.
Launched in 2016, Peninsula Clean Energy serves approximately 295,000 customers in San Mateo County, maintaining a 97% participation rate of eligible customers and providing 3,600 GWh of energy annually. 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.

Formation of California Community Power
In February, Peninsula Clean Energy joined seven other CCAs to form California Community Power (CC Power), a joint powers authority, for the purpose of combining buying power to procure new, cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources to continue advancing local and state climate goals.

PCE and SVCE Receive Award for Reach Code Initiative
Along with fellow CCA Silicon Valley Clean Energy, PCE received a “Spare the Air Leadership Award” sponsored by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The award recognizes the CCAs’ Peninsula-Silicon Valley Reach Code Initiative that has resulted in the adoption of reach codes by more than 20 local communities (nearly half of all reach codes adopted across the state). PCE and SVCE accepted the award on behalf of all the communities that have adopted these important building codes.

Recognizing All-Electric Leaders
PCE selected two commercial and two residential building projects to receive All-Electric Leader awards on May 14. These projects were recognized for their leadership and innovation in all-electric building design and construction in San Mateo County. Commercial awardees will each receive a $3,000 prize and residential awardees will each receive $1,000. These and other selected projects will be featured in a special section of the PCE website and social media platforms. Read more.

Heat-Pump Water Heater Rebate Program
In partnership with the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, PCE is offering San Mateo County residents at least $2,500 to install clean, safe and all-electric heat-pump water heaters. Additional rebate funds are available for income-qualified customers and for customers who require electrical panel upgrades to run the new HPWH. Learn more.
Launched in 2017, RCEA serves over 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.

Airport Microgrid Project
Activity has begun for the Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid (RCAM), the first multi-customer, front-of-the-meter microgrid in Pacific Gas & Electric’s service area. Pre-construction site work is complete, and final Federal Aviation Administration approval is almost complete. RCEA will have much to report about the energy storage, solar arrays, electrical infrastructure and other activities later this summer.

Demand Side Programs
RCEA’s Demand Side Management team is continuing to serve its residential, commercial and public customers through its existing California Public Utilities Commission Program Administrator and PG&E Local Government Partnership programs, as well as local RCEA-funded efforts. Looking toward a future of expanding its demand-side offerings, RCEA has taken a leadership role in developing a statewide Regional Energy Network (REN) of program implementers serving rural, hard-to-reach customers.

E-Bike Rebate Program
The PCE “E-bikes for Everyone” program, launched in mid-May, provides up to 80% off the purchase price of an electric bicycle (up to an $800 rebate) for income-qualified residents of San Mateo County.

Funding 124 EV Charging Ports in County Parking Garage
Through its EV Ready program, PCE is providing up to $248,000 to the County of San Mateo to install 124 electric vehicle charging ports in the new Government Center Parking Structure in Redwood City that is expected to be open by this fall. The EV charging ports will be available to county employees and may, in the future, also be available to the public during evenings and weekends. See the press release.

REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY

Launched in 2017, RCEA serves over 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.

The Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid is the first multi-customer, front-of-the-meter microgrid in PG&E’s service area.
San Diego Community Power is the newest electricity provider to the cities of Chula Vista, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, La Mesa and San Diego. SDCP is committed to providing renewable energy choices at competitive rates and investing in equitable and innovative programs that benefit residents, businesses, the environment and the economy in communities it serves.

**SDCP Launches First Enrollment Phase with Municipal Customers**
On March 1, SDCP officially started enrollment of its municipal customers across its five member cities. This milestone was celebrated by member cities, Interim CEO Bill Carnahan, and Chief Operating Officer Cody Hooven at a press conference in San Diego’s Harbor Island.

SDCP also commemorated this achievement by planting a tree in each of its member cities to mark the start of something new and better for future generations. To view the video, click [here](#).

**SDCP Approves First PPA with RAI Energy**
Marking a day of firsts, SDCP on April 22 celebrated its first Earth Day after launch and approved its first power purchase agreement with RAI Energy for a new-build 100 MW of solar and up to 150 MW of storage from the Vikings Energy Farm in neighboring Imperial County. Expected to come on line in 2023, the Vikings Energy Farm will support economic growth, add more renewables and provide resilience to the grid.

**Next Enrollment Phases**
After successfully launching its municipal customers, SDCP will enroll commercial and industrial customers starting June 1. Residential customers will follow in a phased approach in 2022. Imperial Beach residents will be enrolled in February, followed by La Mesa in March, Encinitas in April, and Chula Vista and San Diego in May.

**SDCP Team Keeps Growing**
Set to be the second-largest CCA in California upon full enrollment, SDCP is quickly growing its staff. Most recently, staff has grown to 10 and is expected to grow to 20 by the end of the fiscal year.
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 Pacific Gas & Electric’s, and a premium option, TotalGreen, that is 100% renewable.

Construction Starts at SJCE’s First Wind Facility
Construction at Clines Corners Wind Farm in New Mexico has officially begun. Check out its progress by watching this short video. Clines Corners Wind Farm is SJCE’s first investment in wind energy and will supply nearly 186,000 San José homes with clean, renewable electricity for 15 years. SJCE was excited to announce this power purchase agreement with Pattern Energy last November as it diversifies its portfolio and supports grid resilience and reliability. The project is expected to come online at the end of this year.

SJCE Completes Customer Enrollment
SJCE completed customer enrollment by welcoming all remaining residential and small commercial Net Energy Metering customers in the fourth and final phase in January. SJCE now serves more than 349,000 customer accounts in the city of San José.

New Program for Low-Income Communities
SJCE was recently approved to implement the Disadvantaged Community-Green Tariff Program in San José. The program includes construction of a 1.7 MW solar site that will provide power for about 800 low-income families living within disadvantaged communities. Customers will receive 100% renewable energy and a 20% discount on their electricity bills (on top of CARE/FERA discounts for up to 55% off their bills). SJCE will begin implementing the program in summer and fall of 2021.

SJCE Applies for Energy Efficiency Program Funding
SJCE filed its advice letter to the California Public Utilities Commission to elect to administer energy efficiency programs. As part of its application, SJCE proposes to develop and implement two incentive programs: one for efficient electric appliances geared toward single-family households that are either moderate-income or located in disadvantaged communities, and a second for heating, cooling and ventilation components for commercial buildings and schools.
SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY (cont.)

SJCE is applying for $1.7 million in funding for three years, for a total of $5.1 million. Should the commission approve SJCE’s application, the programs would launch in winter 2022.

Educating About the Importance of Electrification
Over the last few months, SJCE has participated with other agencies throughout the Bay Area in the Switch Is On campaign promoting the benefits of electrification and local rebates and incentives. For the first time, SJCE utilized influencer marketing with a series of videos created by local influencers using induction cooktops. SJCE also recently created an Electric Homes web page to assist residents and businesses with finding resources and information about electrification.

Engaging Our Community Virtually
SJCE has teamed up with PG&E to provide time-of-use webinars to the community. Customers are provided an overview of the rate plan, a step-by-step process for rate comparisons, and the benefits of reducing their usage between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. The presentation can be viewed on SJCE’s TOU web page.

SJCE has also been working with San José’s Project Hope team—a neighborhood empowerment initiative—to share information on bill assistance programs and TOU with low-income and Spanish-speaking neighborhoods. Presentations have been provided to more than 70 residents, with additional virtual meetings scheduled.

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 Joins California Community Power as Founding Member
In February, SVCE joined seven other CCAs to form California Community Power (CC Power)—a joint powers authority that allows the member CCAs to combine buying power to procure new, cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources to continue advancing local and state climate goals.

At the April CC Power board meeting, CleanPowerSF and Valley Clean Energy joined the JPA, bringing the membership total to 10 CCAs. CC Power members represent more than 3 million customer accounts and 7.6 million people across more than 145 municipalities spanning from Humboldt County to Santa Barbara County. The CCAs serve a combined annual load of 36,000 GWh, which represents about 40% of Pacific Gas & Electric’s annual electric load.

Each CCA is represented by its CEO or another designee on the CC Power board of directors, which operates with open and transparent meetings compliant with the Brown Act. SVCE CEO Girish Balachandran was elected to serve as 2021 board chair.
The agency’s first major joint procurement is for 500 MW of long-duration energy storage. The request for offers is seeking 10-year minimum contracts for grid-charged technologies to come on line by or before 2026. The solicitation is currently in the project evaluation stage.

Peninsula–Silicon Valley Reach Code Initiative Receives Spare the Air Leadership Award
SVCE is a co-recipient of the 2021 Spare the Air Leadership Award, presented at Acterra’s 31st annual Business Environmental Awards for the joint effort with Peninsula Clean Energy that supported member agencies adopting “reach codes.” Reach codes are local amendments to building codes that advance all-electric buildings and transportation. Between both CCAs, 16 Bay Area agencies adopted reach codes through the initiative. The award, presented by Acterra, was sponsored by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

“SVCE is honored to accept the Spare the Air Leadership Award on behalf of the many local leaders and elected officials who, through adopting reach codes, took significant action to combat climate change. All-electric building codes will have a lasting impact to reduce emissions in our communities for decades to come,” said Girish Balachandran, SVCE CEO.

Innovation Onramp Focuses on Resilience
SVCE selected four program proposals to fund from the spring 2020 application round of Innovation Onramp, the SVCE grant program that seeks to address key technical, market and policy barriers to achieving deep decarbonization. The 2020 application round targeted innovative solutions for community-wide energy resilience. The following four pilot projects were selected to further resilience for SVCE communities:

• Span.IO, a flagship pilot with SVCE, will install its smart electrical panels in homes across the SVCE service territory, addressing several key barriers to the all-electric transition and community resilience.
• Extensible Energy and Community Energy Labs will demonstrate that load-management technology can reduce electricity costs and enable schools to cost-effectively install battery backup and serve as community resilience centers.
• Electron will develop a prototype of an SVCE–owned local marketplace for load flexibility from distributed energy resources such as battery storage and smart thermostats, to unlock the value that they can provide to customers and the broader SVCE community.
• Outthink has provided e-bikes to four income-qualified residents and is implementing low-cost streetscape modifications in Gilroy to demonstrate the benefits and challenges of mode shifting and active transportation.
SONOMA CLEAN POWER

Sonoma Clean Power serves 228,000 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. Our Mission: Sonoma Clean Power is turning the tide on the climate crisis, through bold ideas and practical programs.

Celebrating Seven Years of Service
May 1 marked SCP’s seventh year of serving customers. SCP launched service to Sonoma County in 2014; service to Mendocino County began in 2017.

Advanced Energy Center Update
SCP is pleased to announce the opening of the Advanced Energy Center in downtown Santa Rosa, effective June 15. The Advanced Energy Center will give customers a place to explore and learn about new energy-saving products and appliances, and will make clean energy solutions more accessible with 0% financing, deep discounts and a network of qualified contractors. The Advanced Energy Center was made possible by funding from the California Energy Commission’s EPIC Research program. Learn more at www.scpadvancedenergycenter.org.

CEC commissioners watch an induction cooking demonstration in Sonoma Clean Power’s new Advanced Energy Store in downtown Santa Rosa.
SONOMA CLEAN POWER (cont.)

Petaluma Goes Evergreen!
The Petaluma Council voted unanimously to subscribe all of its accounts into SCP’s 100% renewable EverGreen service. Petaluma joins the cities of Sonoma, Cotati, Sebastopol and Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma in actively supporting local renewable energy projects to supply clean power 24 hours of every day.

Program Updates

**Bike Electric**: The Bike Electric program, in which qualified SCP customers receive a $1,000 incentive toward the purchase of an e-bike from local, participating retailers, launched on March 8. The program quickly reached 270 applications, and is now closed to new applicants. To date, 50 electric bicycles have been sold through the program. Approved customers have until September 8 to redeem their vouchers.

**The GridSavvy Community**: Google Nest has officially joined SCP’s demand-response umbrella of programs, the GridSavvy Community. As part of the partnership with Google Nest, SCP customers will receive $50 off the purchase of select Google Nest thermostats through the GridSavvy Community webstore and a $5/month bill credit for enrolling their thermostat to participate in GridSavvy Community “events.”

The GridSavvy Community program was also recently awarded the Peak Load Management Alliance’s “Thought Leadership” award, a prestigious award in the demand-response sphere. The program will be recognized at PLMA’s annual conference and through a webinar for PLMA members later this summer.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Valley Clean Energy launched in 2018 and serves over 55,000 customer accounts in the cities of Davis, Woodland, Winters and unincorporated Yolo County.

Valley Clean Energy Joins California Community Power
VCE is pleased to announce that it has joined nine other Community Choice Aggregation programs across California in a new joint powers authority, California Community Power. Membership in this JPA enables CCAs to achieve their ambitious climate and resilience goals in a cost-effective manner by combining their purchasing power.

VCE Makes Major Solar + Storage Power Deal
The VCE board approved a 20-year agreement to purchase the output from the Resurgence Solar I project, currently under development in San Bernardino County by a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources. The total capacity of the solar photovoltaic project is 90 MW of power and 75 MW of battery energy storage. This project supplies enough energy to power two-thirds of the households served by VCE, and the storage delivers power to the electricity grid when it’s needed the most, in the early evening.
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
- Sonoma Clean Power
- Valley Clean Energy

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- City of Corona
- City of Hermosa Beach
- King City Conservation District
- Orange County Power Authority

CALIFORNIA CCAs