Celebrating 20 YEARS OF AB 117
As we approach the close of 2022, I am filled with gratitude and pride as I look back on the year’s accomplishments, activities, and milestones. I am especially in awe of the growth and success of California’s Community Choice movement, and how far we have come in such a short time.

The CCA revolution began in 2002 with the Legislature’s passage of Assembly Bill 117, the bill that enabled community choice in California. At the time, no one could have envisioned that in just 20 years Community Choice Energy providers would grow to serve more than 200 cities and counties in California, about a quarter of the state’s population, or that CCAs would become such powerful forces in the state’s clean energy transition and forces for good in their communities.

It was not an easy road to get here, and we decided it was time to celebrate a major milestone. On September 24, on the 20th anniversary of the signing of AB 117, CalCCA hosted an event in San Francisco that brought together members, partners and many other distinguished guests to commemorate the history and impact of CCA. It was a beautiful evening—reflected in photos from the event on pages 4 and 5—that left me feeling energized for the next 20 years of CCA advancement.

Thank you for being part of this extraordinary journey. Wishing you and yours a merry and bright holiday season and a wonderful year ahead.

Stay well,

Beth Vaughan
Executive Director, CalCCA
• CCAs have signed long-term PPAs for more than 11,000 MW with new-build clean energy resources, adding another 1,400 MW in just the last year, CalCCA announced in November. The contracts equate to over $14 billion committed by CCAs to new energy resources and support for 24,000 construction jobs. Projects totaling more than 4,000 MW are already operational. View the list of PPAs and a map of project locations here.

• CCAs are on track to meet and exceed the state’s renewable energy goals, according to the California Public Utilities Commission’s latest Renewables Portfolio Standard annual report. “CCAs’ generation has increased to keep pace with RPS requirements through 2023, even exceeding the 2023 forecasted target,” the report notes, adding that the quantity of CCA-contracted projects under development is set to quadruple compared to 2022. The report also highlights that CCAs are implementing workforce policies that aim to promote economic sustainability and inclusion in the renewable energy sector.

• In September, CalCCA presented Senator Carole Migden with the 2022 “CCA Champion Award” in recognition of her pivotal role in the Community Choice movement. Migden authored AB 117, legislation that was signed into law in 2002 and enabled cities and counties to create Community Choice Energy programs in California. Migden served in the California State Assembly from 1996 to 2002 and in the State Senate from 2004 to 2008.

• A reminder to members and partners to save the date for the CalCCA annual conference taking place May 17–19 in San Diego. Watch for an email in January with additional event details.
CalCCA members and partners, local and state elected officials, and other distinguished guests from across California gathered in San Francisco on September 24 to celebrate the phenomenal growth, impact, and success of CCA in California. The event took place on the 20th anniversary of the signing in 2002 of Assembly Bill 117, legislation that enabled cities and counties to create Community Choice Energy programs in California.

It was truly a night to remember. Program highlights included our guest of honor, Senator Carole Migden, accepting the CCA Champion Award; Tom Steyer’s inspiring keynote address; and Assemblymember Richard Bloom presenting to the CalCCA board of directors a State Legislature Resolution honoring the positive impacts of CCAs in California. The event also featured the premiere of a new video, “Powered by Community: California’s CCA Story,” narrated by Peter Coyote. Thank you to our members, partners, sponsors, and everyone who attended for contributing to the success of the event. Here’s to another 20 years of CCA growth and impact!
Matthew Marshall (left), executive director, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, accepts on behalf of the CalCCA board of directors a State Legislature Resolution commending CCA achievements from Assemblymember Bloom.

CPA Executive Director Ted Bardacke, CalCCA Executive Director Beth Vaughan, and California State Senator Scott Wiener.

Team CalCCA (first row from left to right): Shawn-Dai Linderman; Willie Calvin; Beth Vaughan; Evie Kahl; Sandra McCafferty; Martha Serianz; Shagun Tougas; Leanne Bober; Fred Taylor-Hochberg. Back row: Leora Vestel; Sean MacNeil; Lauren Carr; Andrew Mills; Eric Little; Jackson McDonough.
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), PICO RIVERA INNOVATIVE MUNICIPAL ENERGY (PRIME), POMONA CHOICE ENERGY (POMONA CHOICE), RANCHO MIRAGE ENERGY AUTHORITY (RMEA), SANTA BARBARA CLEAN ENERGY (SBCE), AND ENERGY FOR PALMDALE’S INDEPENDENT CHOICE (EPIC).

CITY OF PALMDALE LAUNCHES COMMUNITY CHOICE PROGRAM
CalChoice is pleased to announce the launch of its eighth associate member, Energy for Palmdale’s Independent Choice (EPIC). On October 1, EPIC became the City of Palmdale’s default energy provider for residential customers and will begin serving commercial customers this March. Created by and for the City of Palmdale, EPIC offers clean energy at competitive rates. Palmdale will default customers to EPIC Power, which is its 38% renewable energy product. Customers may choose to opt up to a 100% renewable energy product, EPIC Power100, and solar customers will default to EPIC Empowerment, which offers a $0.06/kWh net surplus credit.

PRIME AND POMONA CHOICE CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES
Pico Rivera Innovative Municipal Energy (PRIME), the city’s locally operated electrical power provider, celebrated its five-year anniversary in September. Since its launch, PRIME has provided an average 3% generation savings for customers and maintains a 94% participation rate. Beyond helping customers save on energy bills, PRIME has also helped expand the city’s Office of Sustainability, which will allow the CCA to continue developing innovative renewable technologies to best serve Pico Rivera residents and businesses, as well as support state energy and climate change goals. Pomona Choice Energy, the City of Pomona’s locally managed CCA program, celebrated its two-year anniversary in October. Pomona Choice currently serves 36,092 residential customers and 5,116 commercial customers throughout the city and plans to reinvest program revenues back into the community to fund renewable infrastructure projects and develop new sustainability programs.

LANCASTER ENERGY, TESLA ENERGY, AND PARTICIPATE ENERGY PARTNER ON NEW SOLAR PROGRAM
The City of Lancaster is partnering with Tesla Energy and Participate Energy to develop an innovative solar program, Power Choice, to support both home developers and homeowners. The goal of this program is to offer a zero up-front cost option to install solar and battery systems when building a new home, thus meeting Title 24 solar requirements in a low-risk, cost-effective manner that is beneficial to everyone. Tesla will design and install the systems and Participate will finance the program and own the systems, while the city earns revenues through fees and a spread between the wholesale PPA and retail rate for the energy sold. Benefits to the program participants include easy access to solar financing and installation, access to backup power in the event of an emergency or Public Safety Power Shutoff, and of course, substantial savings on electric bills. Power Choice also offers an attractive below-market electricity rate from Lancaster Energy, adding value for homeowners who end up using more power than is generated by the system.
CalChoice Associate Members Help Prevent Blackouts Through OhmConnect Partnership

CalChoice associate members are continuing to partner with OhmConnect, an organization that rewards customers for saving energy when it matters most. OhmConnect sends push notifications to customers when Flex Alerts are issued and the power grid is strained. If customers reduce their energy consumption following an alert, they are compensated with cash rewards and prizes. CalChoice associate members have played an integral role in spreading the word about OhmConnect’s program and are directly responsible for bringing OhmConnect 922 new customers and 599 new utility connections. Collectively, OhmConnect partners reduced 1.5 GWh of energy during the heat waves in September.

CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY ENERGY

Central Coast Community Energy is a public agency that sources competitively priced electricity from clean and renewable energy resources. Revenue generated by CCCE stays local and helps keep electricity rates affordable for customers, while also funding innovative energy programs designed to lower greenhouse gas emissions and stimulate economic development. CCCE serves 436,000 customers throughout the Central Coast, including residential, commercial, and agricultural customers in communities located within Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz counties.

CCCE Annual Meeting

CCCE held its annual meeting on September 21 and 22 in Monterey, California. The two-day public event included discussions about CCCE’s road to decarbonization, energy programs, legislative affairs, energy procurement, and more. Highlights included CCCE achieving a 95.44% service-wide enrollment rate for fiscal year 2021–2022, five new renewable energy projects coming on line in 2022, and CCCE’s policy board of directors approving the inclusion of the City of Atascadero as a CCCE member.

Tom Habashi Announces Retirement

CCCE Chief Executive Officer Tom Habashi has announced plans to retire at the conclusion of his contract in March. Under Habashi’s leadership, CCCE grew from serving 265,000 customers in 2018 to approximately 436,000 customers today. As CEO, Habashi worked closely with the board of directors to develop and implement a vision aimed at providing clean and renewable energy at affordable rates to residents and businesses across five counties, from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara. During Habashi’s tenure, CCCE committed to providing customers with $2 billion of power generated from new-build renewable energy projects; adopted a plan to achieve 100% renewable power by 2030, ahead of state and federal goals; and earned an “A” credit rating from Standard & Poor’s. He is also responsible for growing CCCE’s energy program offerings, designed to reinvest in local communities through incentive funding for electrifying buildings and transportation, from $2.6 million in 2018 to nearly $16 million in FY 2022–2023.
Mountain View Wind Repowering Project Comes On Line
The AES Corporation’s Mountain View Wind Repowering Project, located in Riverside County, California, reached commercial operation in July and is now serving CCCE customers. AES removed more than 100 older turbines and replaced them with 16 new Vestas turbines that deliver cost-competitive clean energy to the California communities they serve. The repowered 70 MW facility will generate 262 GWh of clean energy per year, which is enough electricity to power about 40,000 homes and offset 185 million metric tons of carbon emissions annually.

Electrify Your Home
The Electrify Your Home Program is a CCCE partnership with TECH Clean California. This partnership provides cash incentives to contractors for installing eligible heat pump projects in the CCCE service area. Cash incentives are available when switching gas-powered water heaters and HVAC equipment to all-electric versions. Incentives are available to help cover the cost of purchasing and installing appliances, as well as costs related to electric panel upgrades or replacements.

New Construction Electrification
In October, CCCE launched the fourth iteration of its New Construction Electrification Program, which incentivizes new all-electric, affordable housing developments within CCCE’s service area. The program will distribute a total of $1.5 million in grants in the current fiscal year and improve upon previous years by expanding eligibility to farmworker housing units and accessory dwelling units. Qualified housing projects must be built to all-electric standards for energy utility needs including water heating, space heating, and cooking appliances. Incentives are determined on a per-unit basis and will be provided to developers and homeowners upon successful completion of the project. Since its initial launch in 2020, the program has funded the electrification of more than 1,500 local affordable housing units.

Reach Code Program for Member Agencies
Adopting reach codes—building requirements that exceed California’s Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24)—can be a complex and lengthy process for cities and counties, involving studies, community engagement, and ordinance revisions. CCCE’s latest Reach Code Program, launched in October, provides help to city and county staff in conducting the process required to develop, adopt, and implement reach codes. Examples of reach codes include prohibiting new gas line hookups in new construction, requiring heating system electrification for major renovations and requiring electric vehicle charging readiness, to name a few.
CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Clean Energy Alliance began serving customers in 2021 and is now fully operational with a 93% participation rate among its 60,000 customers and all three operational member cities—Carlsbad, Del Mar and Solana Beach—have selected a 75% carbon-free power supply as their default energy product.

Addition of Oceanside and Vista
At its regular board meeting in July, the CEA Board adopted a resolution authorizing the cities of Oceanside and Vista to join CEA. These cities follow Escondido and San Marcos as “soon to launch” members of CEA. The addition of Escondido, San Marcos, Vista, and Oceanside is anticipated to increase CEA customer accounts from 60,000 to 270,000. CEA is planning to begin service to the new member cities in April 2024.

Approval of 15-Year Geothermal PPA
CEA’s Board approved in October a 15-year power purchase agreement with Cape Generating Station 1 LLC for geothermal renewable energy. The PPA comes as a result of a joint solicitation between CEA, CalChoice, and Desert Community Energy. The new-build geothermal project will be located in Beaver County, Utah, and is expected to commence commercial operation in July.

Open Applications for Community Advisory Committee
With three Community Advisory Committee members’ terms expiring at the end of 2022, CEA is accepting applications for these positions, which must be filled by appointees from each member agency. The application period will be open until December 31.

CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE

Founded in 2017, Clean Power Alliance (CPA) is the locally operated nonprofit electricity provider for 30 cities across Los Angeles and Ventura counties, as well as the unincorporated areas of both counties. CPA is the fifth-largest electricity provider in California and has the most customers receiving 100% renewable energy in the nation. CPA serves approximately 3 million people via 1 million customer accounts, providing clean renewable energy at competitive rates.

Eight More CPA Communities Choose 100% Green Power
In October, Beverly Hills, Camarillo, Claremont, Hawthorne, Redondo Beach, unincorporated Los Angeles County, and businesses in Rolling Hills Estates and South Pasadena joined other CPA communities that have already established themselves as environmental champions by selecting 100% Green Power. CPA residential customers in Rolling Hills Estates and South Pasadena have been on the default option since 2019. With the addition of this year’s communities, 21 of the 32 communities CPA serves are now on 100% Green Power.

“More communities are taking a leadership position in choosing renewable energy to ensure their residents and future residents live in a safer, more sustainable environment,” said CPA CEO Ted Bardacke. “We are encouraged to see the growing effort from across Southern California to address very real climate concerns through these viable actions.”
CleanPowerSF, a program of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, offers renewable, affordable, and accessible electricity to more than 380,000 residential and business accounts in San Francisco. To date, CleanPowerSF has contracted with 467 MW of new wind and solar projects in California and signed three solar-plus-battery-storage contracts. Customers are automatically enrolled in CleanPowerSF’s Green service with at least 50% renewable energy and have the option to upgrade to SuperGreen service with 100% renewable energy.

CleanPowerSF Launches Disadvantaged Communities Green Tariff Program
CleanPowerSF has initiated enrollment in its Disadvantaged Communities Green Tariff program, also known as SuperGreen Saver. To date, 151 customers have been enrolled in the program, which provides 100% renewable energy and a 20% electric bill discount. To be eligible for the program, residents must be a CleanPowerSF customer, live in a disadvantaged community (DAC), and be eligible for either California Alternate Rates for Energy or Family Electric Rate Assistance. CleanPowerSF is doing marketing and outreach to eligible customers, encouraging them to enroll in the program.

100% Renewable Electricity for Commercial Buildings Ordinance
In 2019, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to require that large commercial buildings use renewable or greenhouse-gas-free hydroelectricity through the 100% Renewable Electricity for Commercial Buildings Ordinance. The ordinance sets a series of deadlines for compliance, with an initial deadline of December 31, 2022, for commercial buildings over 500,000 square feet.
CLEANPOWERSF (cont.)

Enrollment in CleanPowerSF’s 100% renewable service option, SuperGreen, fulfills the compliance obligations for commercial properties under the ordinance. Earlier this year, CleanPowerSF developed a strategic marketing and outreach plan to reach current and prospective customers subject to the ordinance. In early October, CleanPowerSF began implementation of its marketing plan, with a focus on engaging customers subject to the December 31 deadline that are currently enrolled in its default “Green” product. As part of the outreach plan, the SFPUC is offering consultations for current and prospective customers and providing cost estimates and comparisons, service information, and guidance on the upgrade process.

EV Charge SF Expands to CleanPowerSF Customers in 2023

EV Charge SF, a new-construction electric vehicle charging incentive program offered by the SFPUC, will begin accepting CleanPowerSF customers in early 2023. EV Charge SF is designed to align with changes to San Francisco’s building code requiring EV charging capacity in new parking lots and garages.

EV Charge SF is open to both new construction (buildings currently in the process of construction or which have not yet broken ground) and recent construction (buildings built since January of 2018). These buildings are subject to San Francisco’s EV Readiness Ordinance, which requires that 10% of parking spaces be “turnkey ready” for EV charger installation.

The program will assist builders in exceeding the ordinance requirements through incentives paid out upon project completion, technical assistance and design support for builders, and additional incentives for affordable housing customers.

EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY

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.

Budget Prioritizes Customer Savings, Expands Renewable Energy Benefits

EBCE’s board of directors passed a historic $770 million budget for fiscal year 2022–2023. Highlights of the budget include:

- EBCE’s Bright Choice customers receive a 3% discount below Pacific Gas & Electric rates, translating to $19 million in annual savings relative to PG&E rates in the 2022–2023 fiscal year.
- EBCE’s Renewable 100 customers receive a 25%-lower premium than in previous years (premium rate declines from $0.01/kWh to three-quarters of a cent per kilowatt-hour) for 100% wind and solar electricity from California.
- Customers on income-qualifying California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA) discounts received a $50 bill credit in September, resulting in $6 million in immediate savings for nearly 120,000 homes.
Renewable energy content in EBCE’s Bright Choice power mix will increase by 5% above previous targets, to 50% in 2022. To date, EBCE has cut the ribbon on five renewable energy projects, totaling 335 MW, with seven more projects totaling 677 MW contracted to be built by 2026.

Moreover, EBCE’s annual budget for local programs will increase approximately 150% to $21.35 million, and its funding for community innovation grants will increase to $4.2 million over three years.

City of Stockton Joins EBCE
EBCE will expand its service to the City of Stockton to bring greater clean energy options at more affordable rates, while reinvesting its revenue into the community through services such as its solar and backup storage, home efficiency, and electric vehicle charging offerings. The Stockton City Council voted unanimously to join EBCE at their September 13 meeting, and EBCE’s board of directors voted unanimously to accept the City of Stockton into their joint-powers authority at their meeting on September 21. With this latest expansion into the Central Valley, Stockton will become EBCE’s second-largest city—after the City of Oakland—when it officially initiates its Community Choice program in 2024.

Green Power Leadership Award
EBCE was recognized among the Center for Resource Solutions’ 2022 Green Power Leadership Award winners for its renewable energy market development. This award honors industry leaders, innovators, and champions of renewable energy whose actions support the accelerated development of green power markets.

Innovative Prepay Approach Enables Cost Savings
An energy prepayment is a long-term financial transaction available to municipal utilities and tax-exempt entities such as CCAs that enables a meaningful power procurement cost savings opportunity. This prepay structure has historically been utilized for natural gas procurement and is now being applied towards renewable and clean energy. As a public agency, EBCE is able to employ its tax-exempt status in order to reduce power procurement costs by prepaying for energy with Morgan Stanley as the prepaid power provider and bond underwriter.

Through EBCE’s initial two prepay transactions, EBCE has secured annual savings of over $7 million, which represents nearly a 1% discount to all EBCE customers. Both prepay transactions are 30-year energy contracts. The savings from this second prepay transaction are locked in until 2029, which is when the bonds will need to be repriced, while the savings from the first transaction are locked in until 2032 because it closed on 10-year bonds. The bonds for this prepay transaction, like the first, were issued through the California Community Choice Financing Authority.
Resilient Home Program Helps Stave Off Rolling Blackouts
One thousand solar and home battery customers that are participating in EBCE’s Resilient Home program provided critical emergency energy to stave off rolling blackouts during California’s unprecedented string of Flex Alerts in early September. For the past two years, EBCE and Sunrun have been installing new solar-plus-battery systems and enrolled more than 1,000 single-family homes in Alameda County and Tracy into EBCE’s Resilient Home program.

Resilient Home customers are compensated for dispatching their battery energy in a virtual power plant that reduces EBCE’s peak demand, improves the resilience of the local power grid, and insulates customers from the impacts of power outages. Sunrun delivered 1.1 GWh of energy back to California’s grid during peak demand hours of 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. from September 1 through September 8, including 55 MWh from nearly 1,000 solar-plus-battery customers in EBCE territory, underscoring the incredible value distributed energy provides.

MCE
MCE offers renewable, locally controlled, and cost-competitive electricity to more than 1.5 million residents and businesses in 37 Bay Area communities in Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, and Solano counties. MCE customers are greening California’s electricity supply while investing in local energy programs. For more information about MCE’s services, visit mceCleanEnergy.org or sign up for our monthly eNewsletter.

Use Less Power from 4 to 9 Campaign
MCE is encouraging customers to take action and reduce their energy consumption from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. for bill savings and a cleaner planet. Help us spread the word in your community by sharing how you lower your usage on Facebook, Instagram, or TikTok with #4to9, and tag us @mceCleanEnergy. Learn more about the campaign and actions you can take at mce4-9.org.

West Marin Medical Center Receives 10 kW Energy Storage System
The West Marin Medical Center partnered with MCE to install a 10 kW battery that will be paired with rooftop solar to provide emergency backup power for critical medical facility needs. The battery will also provide an estimated $30,400 in bill savings over seven years through smart charging and discharging.

EV Smart-Charging Pilot, MCE Sync, Now Available
MCE’s new EV smart-charging app, MCE Sync, is now available to Bay Area drivers. Switching to an EV and charging during off-peak hours could save the average California driver over $1,000 per year versus gasoline. The MCE Sync app provides a hassle-free way for EV drivers to charge off-peak that also aligns EV charging with low-carbon electricity and supports grid reliability.
MCE Unveils Plans for a Virtual Power Plant
MCE’s Virtual Power Plant (VPP) program will begin enrollment later this year as part of Richmond’s Advanced Energy Community project. This $7.5 million, two-year project is funded by a California Energy Commission EPIC grant and will provide bill savings and increase local grid reliability, safety, and efficiency for low-income residents. The VPP will include energy storage, smart thermostats, rooftop solar, heat pump space and water heating, and EV charging connected to up to 100 homes and 20 commercial sites. Some of the homes, which were previously abandoned, will be retrofitted to state-of-the-art, fully net-zero status and will be sold in partnership with RCF Connects to income-qualified first-time homebuyers.

Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) launched residential service in October to 800,000 customer accounts in four Orange County communities of Huntington, Fullerton, Irvine, and Buena Park. Customers can choose from OCPA’s 38% renewable Basic Choice, Smart Choice, which provides at least 69% renewable energy and 100% Renewable Choice which provides 100% renewable energy.

OCPA Launches Residential Service, Continues Outreach Efforts
In October, OCPA launched residential service in four Orange County communities. Leading up to the launch, OCPA hosted an information booth at a number of well-attended community events in member cities, where staff had the opportunity to engage with residents and discuss Community Choice Energy and the benefits of renewable power. At one event, OCPA surveyed nearly 400 attendees and found that eight out of 10 respondents were in support of Community Choice Energy.

Because OCPA is still new to the community, the team will continue its outreach efforts. These include “Power Hours”—or mobile office hours—where an OCPA representative is on-site in each member city and invites residents and business owners to stop by to learn more and get their questions answered.

End-of-Quarter Review
OCPA has announced the success of its first full quarter of providing commercial service, which began in April this year. For the year ending June 30, 2022, OCPA’s net position is over $1.6 million, with $21.5 million in available working capital. This is $2.3 million, or 333%, higher than projected in its mid-year budget.
Peninsula Clean Energy is the official electricity provider for San Mateo County and for the City of Los Banos. Founded in 2016, with a mission to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the agency serves a population of 810,000 by providing 3,600 GWh annually of electricity that is 50% renewable and 100% clean and at lower cost than Pacific Gas & Electric. Peninsula Clean Energy is on track to deliver electricity that is 100% renewable by 2025.

Power Purchase Agreements
Peninsula Clean Energy signed a 20-year power purchase agreement with Dos Palos Clean Power LLC that will provide San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos with 3 MW from the Dos Palos project in Merced County. The project is expected to be operational in summer of 2023.

Recognizing All-Electric Leaders
The agency launched a call for entries for its third annual awards program in partnership with the New Buildings Institute. This awards program spotlights leadership and innovation in all-electric buildings. Eligible projects include categories of design, construction, and operation for residential and commercial buildings. Award winners will receive a $2,000 cash prize and a customized plaque, and will be given the opportunity to highlight their work during the All-Electric Building Leadership Awards hosted by Sustainable San Mateo County in spring 2023. These and other selected projects will be featured in a special section of the Peninsula Clean Energy website and social media platforms.

Interest-Free Loans and Expanded Rebates for Clean, Electric Appliances
Peninsula Clean Energy is providing homeowners in San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos interest-free financing and new rebates to install electric appliances and make other energy-efficiency upgrades. The new program will provide interest-free financing of as much as $10,000 per home for projects that include installation of electric heat pump equipment, such as water heaters and HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) units.

Customers can also get rebates of up to $3,500 for installing an electric heat pump HVAC system, and heat pump water heater rebates increased to $3,000. Customers who work with a BayREN contractor can get an additional $1,000 rebate. Customers who participate in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs qualify for an added $1,000 rebate. Learn more.

Green Access Is Saving Income-Qualified Customers an Additional 20%
The Green Access Program is providing more than 1,000 income-qualified customers in San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos a 20% savings on their electric bills that is automatically applied to bills distributed by PG&E. The average customer saves $41.45 per month. Since February, the total savings have
exceeded $191,000. The 20% discount is in addition to the discounts income-qualified customers already receive through CARE and FERA programs. Read more.

Local Nonprofits Invited to Apply to the Outreach Grant Program
Peninsula Clean Energy invited local nonprofit community-based organizations to apply for grants of up to $45,000 per project to support environmental education, community outreach, and other services in San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos in 2023. Grant recipients work in collaboration with Peninsula Clean Energy’s outreach team for up to one year. The grant period begins January 1, 2023. Learn more.

PIONEER COMMUNITY ENERGY

Pioneer Community Energy offers competitive rates, reliable service, and energy choice to 150,000 accounts in the unincorporated areas of Placer County and El Dorado County, the Town of Loomis, and the cities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Placerville, and Rocklin.

New Monthly Webinars
Pioneer now offers monthly webinars called “Got Solar or Getting Solar: Things to Know” and “What Is Pioneer and Why Is It on My Bill?” The solar seminar features three sections discussing how solar works and methods for financing it, how net-energy metering and time-of-use rate plans work, and how Pioneer’s monthly billing and PG&E’s annual billing work. Both Pioneer and non-Pioneer customers have found the webinars helpful.

Outreach to Homeowner and Realtor Associations
Pioneer recently started a campaign to connect with homeowners’ associations, multifamily complexes, and mobile home parks throughout its service territory. In the first 30 days, Pioneer staff provided multiple in-person presentations and placed articles in local newsletters. Pioneer has also initiated a campaign to reach out to realtors through their associations in each county. Realtors are frequently the first contact with Pioneer customers.

In October, Pioneer participated in the annual Eggplant Festival in Loomis. More than 250 customers stopped by the Pioneer booth throughout the day.

CalCCA TIP

The new Key Docs portal on the CalCCA website provides easy access to CCAs’ financial, policy, and formation documents. Enter the portal here: cal-cca.org/key-cca-documents.
Launched in 2017, the Redwood Coast Energy Authority serves over 63,000 customers in Humboldt County, Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Ferndale, Blue Lake, Rio Dell, and Trinidad. RCEA offers “REpower” 32+% renewable and “REpower+” 100% renewable and carbon-free energy service options.

Sandrini Solar Project
RCEA has a contract in place with EDPR for 100 MW from the Sandrini Sol 1 project being developed in Kern County. EDPR began preliminary construction activities by issuing limited notices to proceed to its engineering, procurement, and construction contractors in July.

Midterm Reliability Procurement
In August, the RCEA board of directors approved the launch of a solicitation for zero-emitting resources in response to the California Public Utilities Commission’s Decision 21-06-035 to address the midterm reliability (MTR) needs of the state’s electric grid in 2023-2026. In response to its solicitation, RCEA did not receive any eligible offers that would meet its MTR procurement obligation. Staff is looking at alternatives to meet RCEA’s procurement obligation, and plans to bring potential options to the board ad hoc committee on MTR procurement.

Fairhaven Energy Storage
The energy storage project at Fairhaven, just across Humboldt Bay from RCEA headquarters in Eureka, is moving forward. RCEA’s board approved a resource adequacy contract for the project’s full capacity in June. Cleanup is underway at the site, previously used to stockpile fuel for the adjacent, currently idled biomass power plant. The project developer Broad Reach Power is working with Pacific Gas & Electric on repowering the substation and has submitted final designs for needed modification of the site’s grid interconnection.

Clean Transportation
RCEA has observed a steady growth in the use of its electric vehicle charging network over the last five years, despite fluctuations during the pandemic. Gas prices this summer helped to drive up EV charging demand, and despite a tight EV supply market and chip shortages, we expect them to be even more popular in the near future as EVs gain in popularity and availability.

Offshore Wind Update
RCEA continues to work with community stakeholders to address offshore wind-related needs and concerns. RCEA provided a grant to help the Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association establish a nonprofit California Fishermen’s Resilience Association and create a template for a fishing interests-focused community benefit agreement for offshore wind development. RCEA also contracted with consulting firm Lost Coast Wind to support tribal engagement on offshore wind. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management recently released its final sale notice for California offshore wind leases, with the auction set for December 6.
Rebates
RCEA launched online residential and commercial catalogs of rebates for homes and businesses to offset the cost of buying new energy-efficient appliances, equipment, heat pump space and water heating units, electric vehicles, and charging equipment.

Rural REN
RCEA is leading development of a statewide Rural Regional Energy Network (RuralREN), modeled on the existing RENs serving California’s urban areas. The RuralREN group is shepherding the proposed customer energy-efficiency program through the CPUC regulatory process. The RuralREN partners, representing hard-to-reach rural communities, held their first in-person meeting in September in conjunction with the California Climate and Energy Collaborative Conference.

Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating Quick Start Grant
Through the Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH) Quick Start Grant program, RCEA is providing rebates for users of unregulated fuels (propane, kerosene, cordwood, etc.) to switch to heat pump space and water heaters. RCEA has secured partnerships with area contractors and identified 11 out of the 20 projects to be funded. RCEA is a finalist for a second round of funding, which will support an analysis of barriers to electrification in the more rural parts of the county and tribal lands. The $120 million TECH initiative has its origins in Senate Bill 1477 and is funded by California gas corporation ratepayers under the auspices of the CPUC.

Rio Dell’s ‘Light the Night’ Project
RCEA is continuing with outreach and providing residential energy-efficiency kits to Rio Dell residents. The materials are available for those who bring in and dispose of older energy-inefficient light bulbs to Rio Dell City Hall. The project emerged as a Rio Dell Police Department initiative aimed at encouraging residents to leave their porch lights on during nighttime hours as a method of crime deterrence. City staff approached RCEA to see if we could help.

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER

San Diego Community Power is the electricity provider for the cities of Chula Vista, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, and San Diego, with the unincorporated communities of the County of San Diego and the City of National City to be served in 2023. Formed in 2019, SDCP is committed to entirely clean and renewable electricity by 2035 or sooner—the first in the state to establish this goal in our foundation.

Wave FC Commits to 100% Clean Energy
As part of their commitment to a more equitable and sustainable future for all San Diegans, Wave FC has become SDCP’s latest Power100 Champion, joining the ranks of the San Diego Padres, Sharp HealthCare,
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER (cont.)

Illumina and the San Diego International Airport. By opting up to Power100, Wave FC’s eligible accounts in SDCP’s service territory will be powered by 100% renewable, carbon-free energy—making them the first National Women’s Soccer League team to publicly make such a commitment.

SDCP Surveys 3,000+ Residents and Businesses to Create More Equitable Energy Future
SDCP is developing a five-year strategic Community Power Plan that will guide the investments of millions of dollars into the greater San Diego region through new programs. SDCP approached the development of the plan with a focus on facilitating participation from communities of concern and equitable and inclusive engagement.

Over 3,000 people and businesses responded to our Community Needs Survey, and SDCP representatives heard directly from ratepayers at listening sessions and dozens of outreach events across six member cities and unincorporated areas of the county. SDCP will analyze survey data in the coming weeks to get a clearer picture of the types of programs that San Diegans want. The findings will be released publicly and serve as a road map for SDCP to better serve its customers.

SDCP Response to Historic Heat Wave
During California’s intense heat wave from September 1 through September 9, SDCP started a #CasuallyCool challenge to encourage agencies and businesses to turn up their thermostats while allowing employees to dress down for the day. Social media channels such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter were used to share information about how to prepare for extreme heat events.

‘CHOICE’ WORDS

“Not only is community choice energy an example of democracy at work, but it also provides a sustainable, ongoing channel of resources into our city. This is about more than just lowering emissions; this will boost our economic development and resilience for the long term.” —Stockton City Councilmember Dan Wright on the city’s decision to join East Bay Community Energy
SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY

San Jose Clean Energy serves approximately 350,000 customers in the City of San José, the 10th-largest city in the U.S. with a population of 1.03 million. SJCE launched service in February 2019 to most residents and businesses. Its total annual load is approximately 4 TWh and its peak demand is approximately 1 GW. SJCE offers three clean energy options: GreenValue is SJCE’s lowest-cost service (same price as Pacific Gas & Electric) and is 40% renewable; GreenSource is SJCE’s standard service and is 60% renewable; and TotalGreen is SJCE’s premium service for 100% renewable energy.

SJCE Turns Four!
SJCE started serving municipal customers in September 2018 and expanded enrollment to most other customers in February 2019. During the past four years, SJCE has served over 350,000 customers in San José and invested $1 billion in new projects to add solar, wind, geothermal, and energy storage to the grid. SJCE will continue to keep the San José community at the core of its services and advance commitments to customer benefits, community reinvestment, and cleaner energy.

San José City Council Approves SJCE’s Participation New Geothermal Contracts
The San José City Council recently approved SJCE’s participation in two contracts with California Community Power (CC Power) for geothermal energy. SJCE may procure up to 34 MW of energy from the Ormat and Fish Lake geothermal projects to help meet its midterm reliability requirements. SJCE is proud to be a member of CC Power and join forces with other CCAs to procure new, cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources to continue advancing local and state climate goals.

Solar Access Program Earns CAPIO Award
SJCE won an Award of Distinction from the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO) in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Outreach/Campaign category for its Solar Access program. SJCE worked in partnership with community-based organizations (CBOs) including Mujeres Empresarias Tomando Acción (META), International Children Assistance Network (ICAN), and the Alviso Community Fund (ACF) to connect with eligible residents to share information about the program and help them enroll. CBOs are trusted messengers and essential partners in reaching San José’s Spanish- and Vietnamese-speaking communities as well as customers without internet access.

Launch of Energy-Efficiency Programs
In September 2022, SJCE launched two new energy-efficiency programs. The San José Energy Efficient Business Program provides local businesses and schools rebates (up to 90% off) on energy-saving upgrades to HVAC, refrigeration, and water heating. Businesses will benefit from lower energy use and expenses, increased comfort, and less impact on the environment. Single-family households in disadvantaged communities and citywide with moderate incomes can apply for discounts and rebates on energy-efficient appliances (up to 70% off) and free smart thermostats and plug strips through SJCE’s Home Appliance Savings Program.
Launched in April 2017, Silicon Valley Clean Energy serves 270,000 residential and business 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 renewable and carbon-free sources, and GreenPrime, a 100% renewable, Green-e-certified product.

SVCE Signs First 24/7 Carbon-Free Agreement
SVCE and Google have harnessed the value of their shared clean energy goals to create a fundamentally new 24/7 renewable energy service that features hourly renewable energy matching, integrated demand management, and a commitment to ongoing community investments in local building and transportation electrification. Under the 10-year agreement, SVCE will serve Google’s offices in Mountain View and Sunnyvale, matching carbon-free electricity with Google’s local demand for at least 92% of all hours in the year.

This new energy service with Google represents a model that can be replicated and scaled—in other communities, by other energy providers, and by commercial energy customers—with important benefits for the customer and the community. View the case study for additional information on SVCE’s 24/7 carbon-free energy service with Google.

SVCE eHub Receives Green Power Leadership Award for Education
The Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) awarded SVCE the Green Power Leadership Award for Education for its creation of eHub. eHub is an online resource that has improved SVCE engagement with our community and encourages community members to learn about and take action to electrify their homes and transportation.

The Green Power Leadership Awards recognize outstanding leadership in the renewable energy industry by organizations that are driving green power development and adoption. eHub was recognized for its educational impact and reach within SVCE’s member communities, including comprehensive email and digital communications strategies resulting in nearly 300,000 customer visits and interactions since launch in fall of 2020.

Repowered Wind Project Produces Clean Power
In July, SVCE joined Central Coast Community Energy and the AES Corporation to celebrate the repowered Mountain View Wind Project, located in Riverside, California. SVCE is receiving 33 MW from the 67 MW project under a 20-year contract.
The addition of this long-term wind resource increases the reliability and diversity of SVCE’s power portfolio. More than 100 existing turbines were dismantled and 16 new Vestas turbines were commissioned for the project, which provides enough clean energy to power 40,000 homes.

**Supporting Resilient Communities**

Power outages from wildfires, extreme heat, and planned shutoff events are increasing, causing economic and public health impacts across the SVCE service territory. To support a more resilient region, SVCE is investing $5 million to enable local governments to make investments during pandemic-related budget cutbacks and support local jobs in a time of increased unemployment.

The City of Saratoga used the Community Resilience Grant to install backup batteries at 14 traffic light intersections. Traffic light backup batteries support traffic safety for the community of Saratoga in case of wildfires, earthquakes, or other emergencies that could cause power outages. In those cases, the backup batteries will turn on for up to two hours, operating in the normal traffic-adaptive system that changes with real-time traffic demand. With backup power for the adaptive lights, the city will also maintain access to and control over the signals to maximize the safest and most effective flow of traffic, which is critical during evacuations.

**SONOMA CLEAN POWER**

Sonoma Clean Power serves 230,000 accounts in Sonoma and Mendocino counties. SCP offers CleanStart 49% renewable/93% carbon-free electricity and EverGreen 100% local, renewable electricity. SCP enjoys an 87% participation rate. Sonoma Clean Power’s mission is turning the tide on the climate crisis, through bold ideas and practical programs.

**SCP Headquarters World’s First GridOptimal Building**

SCP’s new all-electric headquarters features an innovative microgrid, exceeding net-zero energy standards by reducing greenhouse gas emissions on the state’s electric grid. The two-year renovation project transformed a 1979 structure into the world’s first GridOptimal® building that enables and accelerates decarbonization of the grid. The building’s 23 electric car chargers, building lights, HVAC, and water heating can all adjust when they use electricity to ensure that energy is only drawn from the grid when plenty of clean power is available in California.
SONOMA CLEAN POWER (cont.)

Advanced Energy Center Grand Opening
In early October, SCP held the official grand opening celebration for the Advanced Energy Center. CEO Geof Syphers, State Senator Mike McGuire and California Energy Commission Chair David Hochschild spoke to attendees, highlighting the importance of electrification in combating the climate crisis.

Awards and Recognition
SCP was recognized as a “Best Place to Work” for the fourth consecutive year by North Bay Business Journal, and voted “Best Company to Do Business With in Sonoma County” in NorthBay biz magazine’s annual readers’ poll.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

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

Yolo County Opt...
CALCCA MEMBERS

- Apple Valley Choice Energy
- Central Coast Community Energy
- Clean Energy Alliance
- Clean Power Alliance
- CleanPowerSF
- Desert Community Energy
- Energy for Palmdale's Independent Choice
- East Bay Community Energy
- Lancaster Choice Energy
- MCE
- Orange County Power Authority
- 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
- Santa Barbara Clean Energy
- Silicon Valley Clean Energy
- Sonoma Clean Power
- Valley Clean Energy

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- Butte Choice Energy
- City of Corona
- City of Hermosa Beach

- King City Conservation District
- Tuolomne County