As the days lengthen and the air warms, I think of how CCAs are going through a season of transformation and growth as well. This year, spring brings not only blossoming flowers but also the promise of new ideas and fresh perspectives, especially with the emergence of new leadership within our organization.

In the past year, CalCCA has welcomed to the board five new CEOs: Rob Shaw, Central Coast Community Energy; Shawn Marshall, Peninsula Clean Energy; Greg Wade, Clean Energy Alliance; Monica Padilla, Silicon Valley Clean Energy; and Joe Mosca, Orange County Power Authority. CalCCA has procedures in place to ensure smooth board member transitions, made all the easier in this case given that the five new directors are seasoned professionals with deep experience in CCA, local government, and the energy industry.

This year has been an active one so far. CalCCA has hosted several events in a short time span, most notably our annual Lobby Day, attended by more than 70 CCA staff and board members. With a focus on affordability and reliability, our discussions carried significant weight with legislators who are also grappling with the complex problem of maintaining the path to decarbonization in the face of rising customer costs. CalCCA is committed to working collaboratively with other stakeholders to tackle these thorny issues.

Amidst our deliberations, let’s not forget the excitement surrounding our 2024 annual conference, April 16–18, in San Jose. With more than 700 attendees expected, this gathering promises to be a dynamic platform for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and networking, where we can explore innovative solutions to the challenges facing our industry.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our shared mission. I look forward to seeing many of you in San Jose!

Stay well,

Beth Vaughan
Chief Executive Officer
CalCCA

CalCCA Lobby Day at the state Capitol (left to right): CPA CEO Ted Bardacke, PCE CEO Shawn Marshall, Senate President Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, CalCCA CEO Beth Vaughan, SJCE Director Lori Mitchell, and SDCP CEO Karin Burns.
QUICK TAKES

• In March, CalCCA and six member CCAs visited Washington, D.C. for the first joint-CCA federal advocacy day! Discussions with legislators and energy agency staff focused on affordability, clean energy project development, and program funding. CalCCA Legislative Director Sean MacNeil and Legislative Manager Teresa Machado traveled with the delegation, which received a very warm reception in the nation’s capital.

• Please join us in welcoming CalCCA’s newest team member, Matt Lundy! Matt stepped into the role of communications and marketing assistant in February and is now busy developing newsletter content, updating the website, editing video, and more. Previously, Matt worked at Silicon Valley Clean Energy where he focused on community outreach. Welcome to the team, Matt!

• As electricity rates continue to skyrocket, more and more low-income households must choose between paying their electricity bills or paying for food, medicine, rent, and other essentials. CCAs are taking a number of actions to lower rates for customers. In 2023, CCAs collectively saved customers about $760 million on their electricity bills compared to their non-CCA counterparts. Learn more about California’s energy affordability crunch here.

2024 LOBBY DAY

CalCCA gathered in Sacramento on February 21 for an engaging and successful Lobby Day. The day began in the morning with a team meeting at the California Museum, where CEO Beth Vaughan and Director of Legislative Affairs Sean MacNeil provided introductory remarks and set the stage for the busy day ahead. The 70-person delegation then ventured off to meet with legislators, legislative staff, and staff from the governor’s office and California Energy Commission (CEC). Collectively, the CalCCA/CCA representatives attended almost 60 meetings.

The CalCCA delegation had the chance to discuss a range of topics with Senate President Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Senator Brian Dahle, Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris (chair, Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee), Assemblymember Jim Patterson (vice chair, Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee), CEC Vice Chair Siva Gunda, Chase Hopkins (policy consultant, office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas), Nidia Bautista (chief consultant to Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee), and Secretaries Christine Hironaka and Grant Mack (governor’s office).

Conversations explored affordability, interconnection delays, resource adequacy scarcity, the income-graduated fixed charge, and innovative CCA initiatives. The day ended with a well-attended CalCCA evening reception at the museum. A very big thank you to everyone who came out for the day!
“Energizing Innovation” is the theme for the 2024 CalCCA Annual Conference, but what does that mean to CCAs? We asked our members to provide one example of what they’re doing to energize innovation. Here’s what they said:

**Ava Community Energy: Multi-Pronged Strategy to Reduce Customer Bills**

Ava Community Energy (Ava) has developed a financial strategy to help minimize our customers’ energy bills. That strategy has many facets, and includes: 1) procuring renewable energy in long-term contracts to maintain price stability; 2) utilizing innovative financing tools to further lower procurement costs, such as “prepayment” that has previously been utilized in natural gas markets; 3) offer customers savings all-year-round with rates that are below PG&E (our Bright Choice service has always had lower rates than PG&E and is currently a 5% discount below PG&E rates); 4) return excess revenue to customers in the form of dividends on their bill. Through these approaches, Ava has saved our customers almost $100 million since 2018 compared to what they would have paid PG&E for electricity.

**Central Coast Community Energy: Supporting World's Largest Compressed-Air Energy Storage Project**

In 2023, Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) signed a 25-year contract with Hydrostor for the construction of a compressed-air energy storage (CAES) facility that once built will provide 500 MW of energy storage, making it the largest CAES project in the world. Two hundred megawatts of that capacity will be reserved for 3CE. Retiring fossil fuels requires significant energy storage, and will require developing new technologies and improvements to existing technologies. The Willow Rock Energy Storage Center will provide critical storage to bridge gaps when renewable generation is less plentiful. In pushing the envelope, 3CE is clearing the path toward reliability and reduced emissions.

**CleanPowerSF: Ensuring Equitable Access to the Benefits of Rooftop Solar**

Since 2008, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has invested nearly $30 million to support 6,000+ rooftop solar installations, many for low-income customers. However, solar systems require maintenance and repairs over time and the inverter is a costly component that needs replacing, especially for the older systems. For many low-income customers, the cost to repair their inverter is too great, resulting in systems becoming inoperable well before the end of the solar panels’ useful life. In response, CleanPowerSF’s programs team developed a first-of-its-kind Solar Inverter Replacement Program to provide low-income customers with direct financial assistance for inspections, inverter replacements, and repairs. The program has replaced inverters for 171 low-income households, lengthening the life of solar systems, maintaining local generation capacity, and ensuring an equitable clean energy transition.

**MCE: Achieving Accelerated Clean Energy Goals with New Technologies**

In 2023, MCE achieved its goal of providing 95% greenhouse gas-free energy, nearly two decades ahead of California’s SB 100 target. Doubling down on new technologies, MCE added 134 MW of geothermal power, plugged into its first utility-scale solar and storage project, and received POWER Magazine’s Top Gas Plant award for converting a natural gas-fired peaker plant into a state-of-the-art energy storage hybrid facility. As California’s first community choice energy provider, MCE continues to accelerate its efforts to meet the state’s clean energy goals with affordable, equitable, and reliable electricity.

**Peninsula Clean Energy: Demonstrating Equitable EV Charging**

Peninsula Clean Energy is expanding equitable electrification through right-sizing methods and technologies that avoid unnecessary service upgrades. With distribution upgrades significantly delayed and frequently costly, we’re making it easier for multifamily rental housing to access overnight charging through Level 1 and power-managed charging. This is more
affordable and effectively meets the daily needs of most drivers. We have also successfully demonstrated through pilot projects and region-wide meter analytics that most homes can switch from gas to electric well within existing 100-amp capacity, significantly reducing costs. We are now expanding to provide whole-home electrification upgrades, including for income-qualified customers.

**Pioneer Community Energy: Leveraging AI for Enhanced Customer Service**

Pioneer Community Energy is energizing innovation by integrating an award-winning chatbot, available 24/7 via its website, to enhance customer service and provide immediate answers to common questions. Pioneer is leveraging the chatbot’s detailed analytics to identify customer needs, fine-tune important messaging, and streamline information delivery. This innovative tool has led to a substantial increase in website traffic and a significant reduction in call center volume, with an estimated 8,000 customer interactions per month. Pioneer continues to explore new technologies and solutions to improve operational efficiencies.

**Silicon Valley Clean Energy: Testing New Rates to Shift Energy Use Off-Peak**

SVCE opened a pilot residential rate, the Electric Home rate, in 2023 to incentivize customers with EVs or heat pump technology to shift energy use to off-peak hours. The rate features a 10% increase in peak generation rates relative to PG&E’s E-ELEC rate, while offering customers a 30% decrease in off-peak rates. SVCE currently has 1,300-plus enrolled customers in the rate pilot, with average customer savings of $15 per month relative to PG&E’s E-ELEC rate. SVCE is actively engaging with participants to help them shift energy usage, and plans to continue tracking their performance to learn more about how rate structure and engagement can influence customer behavior.

**Sonoma Clean Power: Advancing Innovative Programs**

For the past 10 years, Sonoma Clean Power has been delivering on our brand pillars of innovative, practical, and inclusive through an array of customer programs, community initiatives, and educational efforts in the categories of transportation electrification, including our three-year Drive EV incentive program, two electric bike programs (one for income-qualified customers only), and an EV incentive program for nonprofits. We have pioneered building-decarbonization and home-electrification education at our award-winning Advanced Energy Center and through our no-technology-needed GridSavvy demand-response program and have continuously invested in education/workforce development efforts including an intern program, supporting STEM fields with education and scholarships, and promoting careers in the trades through the Career Technical Education Foundation’s Switch Vehicle program and the LIME Foundation’s NextGen Trades Academy.

**Valley Clean Energy: Piloting Dynamic Agricultural Rates**

Valley Clean Energy (VCE) is the first CCA in the state of California to initiate a dynamic-rates program, the Agricultural Flexible Irrigation Technology (AgFIT) Pilot. Due to that pilot’s success, the California Public Utilities Commission recently voted to significantly expand the pilot throughout the state and to non–agricultural end uses. VCE has outreach programs that help low-income customers get access to a range of energy-efficiency and electrification rebates and technical support, as well as higher incentives to purchase vehicles through the VCE Electric Vehicle Rebate Program. VCE is designing a program to provide incentives for electric tractors with bidirectional charging capability, due to launch later in 2024. VCE now offers the least expensive rates in its service territory, while working toward the goal of 100% renewable in its standard service by 2030.
INSIDE STORY: CCA GREEN BONDS

Energy affordability is a major concern for California residents. As local, not-for-profit energy providers, CCAs are dedicated to finding every avenue possible to reduce their customers’ bills. Green bond prepayment transactions are one of the newer tools CCAs are using to achieve significant savings for customers.

In 2021, five CCAs—Ava Community Energy, Central Coast Community Energy, Clean Power Alliance, MCE, and Silicon Valley Clean Energy—formed the California Community Choice Financing Authority (CCCFA) to help reduce the amount they pay and charge customers for renewable energy. CCCFA is a conduit issuer of bonds that can secure lower energy contract prices through the use of a special legal framework that applies to public or tax-exempt entities, including CCAs.

CCCFA has to date issued nearly $10 billion in prepayment bonds on behalf of CCAs, saving participating community choice ratepayers roughly $60 million annually, or nearly $2 billion over the life of prepaid energy contracts. How is this possible?

Since the 1990s, both the Internal Revenue service (IRS) and U.S. Congress have codified that tax-exempt entities can pay for energy in a unique way. They can prepay, or pay upfront, for a supply of electricity from a taxable entity and fund that prepayment with tax-exempt municipal bonds. Because the bonds that are used to pay for the electricity are tax-exempt and generally have a lower interest rate, entities like CCAs effectively get a discount on energy contracts by paying upfront.

Historically, the special framework that allows for this prepayment discount has been used by municipal electric and gas utilities largely for the purchase of natural gas. But now CCCFA is using this unique allowance to assist CCAs in lowering their customers’ costs through green bonds that pay for the purchase and building of clean energy projects.

CCCFA’s bond prepayments have three main parties: a CCA looking to buy electricity, CCCFA facilitating the purchase through bonds, and a taxable entity looking to sell electricity. By way of example, Clean Power Alliance's green bond proceeds are being used to finance CPA energy payments under seven clean energy PPAs including one with Clearway’s Daggett 3 Solar-Plus-Storage project in San Bernardino County (pictured above).
Alliance (CPA), California’s largest CCA, worked with CCCFA to complete two prepay bond transactions in 2023, each yielding proceeds of approximately $1 billion. These bonds were underwritten, or purchased directly and then resold to investors, by Goldman Sachs. The bonds’ sale provided funds for the prepayment, which was sent to a commodity subsidiary of Goldman Sachs, J Aron & Company, who is responsible for supplying electricity to the CCA over the 30-year term of the bonds.

The savings come from the fact that the bank or underwriter is willing to pay for the bonds at their normal taxable borrowing rate. However, the bonds are tax-exempt and have a lower interest rate, so the difference between the normal taxable rate and the lower tax-exempt rate becomes a discount for the CCA—usually around 10 percent. The bank agrees to the discount because they get other benefits from the agreement, such as underwriting fees.

Given the success of the green bond issuances, more CCAs are now giving prepayment transactions a close look. There are 25 CCAs in California, and some who are not currently part of CCCFA have expressed interest in joining and moving forward with additional bond issuances.

Greater demand from community choice energy providers and investors means that more bond issuances are extremely likely in the future, which means even more savings for CCA customers.

UPDATES FROM CALIFORNIA’S CCAs

AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY

Ava Community Energy (Ava), formerly East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), is the not-for-profit public power provider for more than 1.7 million residents and commercial customers in Alameda County and the City of Tracy, with service extending to the San Joaquin County cities of Stockton and Lathrop in 2025. More at avaenergy.org.

Ava CEO Nick Chaset Announces Plans to Step Down
Ava Community Energy announced that Nick Chaset will step down as chief executive officer, effective July 15, 2024, to join a global clean energy company as a senior executive leader. Chaset has been with Ava since its formation in 2017, and served as the company’s first CEO, leading the company through an era of unprecedented achievement and growth. Ava’s board of directors is opening a formal search process to identify his replacement.

Ava Appoints Annie Henderson to Chief Customer Officer
Ava promoted Annie Henderson, formerly Ava’s vice president of marketing and account services, to the newly created role of chief customer officer. With decades of experience in renewable energy—from small businesses and startups, to the California Center for Sustainable Energy, to spearheading residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs at Renew Financial—Henderson brings deep industry acumen and holistic expertise to Ava’s ongoing efforts to best serve its member communities. As chief customer officer, Henderson leads the Local Development and Programs, Account Services, and Marketing teams—the three main functions through which Ava interacts with its customers.
Partnership to Build Largest Public EV Charging Hub in Oakland

Ava Community Energy and EV Realty, an EV infrastructure development platform purpose-built to maximize electric power availability for critical commercial fleets, announced the execution of a long-term services contract that will enable the construction of Oakland’s largest public EV fast-charging hub. Supported by a 10-year services contract with Ava, EV Realty will develop, build, own, and operate a 33-stall EV charging project at the Oakland City Center Garage, centrally located to serve several audiences, including residents of nearby multifamily housing developments. This will be the largest public fast-charging site in Oakland, increasing the overall amount of public fast-charging infrastructure in the city by nearly 45%.

Ava Provides $16M in Savings to Customers

Ava Community Energy invested $16 million back into the community through the agency’s expanded bill credits and savings program. In November-December 2023:

- Every household on an income-qualifying rate under the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs automatically received a one-time $50 bill credit. With about 115,000 qualifying accounts, Ava put approximately $6 million back in customers’ wallets.
- All Ava residential customers (including those on CARE or FERA) received a $7.74 bill credit, and all Ava commercial customers received volumetric savings on their bills based on their electricity usage. These two tranches totaled $10.5 million across residential and commercial bills.

These new savings and bill credits come in addition to the savings Ava regularly provides through its Bright Choice power product, which offers customers a 5% discount compared to the incumbent utility’s rates every day of the year.

Oakland Roots and Soul Sports Club Partnership Extension

The Oakland Roots and Soul Sports Club renewed its partnership with founding partner Ava Community Energy ahead of the 2024 season.

Ava is the soccer club’s official clean energy partner and now becomes Oakland Roots and Oakland Soul’s official back-of-jersey partner for the first time in the club’s five-year history. Ava’s logo will be emblazoned on all primary and secondary official jerseys.

CalCCA TIP

A shortfall of RA supply in California has created challenges for energy providers including Community Choice Aggregators, resulting in increasing penalties. Stay up to date with how this shortfall is affecting CCAs and what can be done by reading CalCCA’s whitepaper here: cal-cca.org/resource-adequacy/
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 Energy (LE), 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).

CalChoice Expands Power Choice Program
CalChoice has partnered with Tesla and Participate.Energy to provide its associate members the Power Choice Program. The program gives residential customers and homeowners the opportunity to benefit from solar and battery storage without the cost of installing and owning a system. Additionally, the Tesla Powerwall provides emergency backup power in the event of a Public Safety Power Shutoff or a disaster and will allow customers to use 100% of the solar energy their system produces at home. Piloted by Lancaster Energy in 2022, the Power Choice program has now expanded to several CalChoice associate members: Rancho Mirage Energy Authority, Pico Rivera Innovative Municipal Energy, San Jacinto Power and Pomona Choice Energy, with several more CalChoice CCAs on schedule to launch in the coming months. Lancaster Energy has begun exploring options to extend the program to commercial customers in 2024.

City of Pico Rivera and PRIME Launch XeroHome
The City of Pico Rivera is partnering with XeroHome, a digital platform that uses public data to develop energy models for homes. These models are used to recommend home improvements, improve energy efficiency, and reduce building carbonization. XeroHome is free to use and available to all Pico Rivera residents who live in single-family homes or duplex dwellings.

Pomona City, Staff Receive Awards for Energy Efficiency
The San Gabriel Valley Council of Government and Southern California Regional Energy Network recognized the City of Pomona with the Energy Champion Award for energy efficiency projects completed over the last two years. Environmental Compliance Supervisor Julie Carver and Management Analyst Anthony Ortega were also awarded as 2023 Energy Leaders of the Year for their tireless dedication, commitment, and support for energy efficiency in the San Gabriel Valley.

RMEA Empowers Sustainability with the Green Wheels Sweepstakes
In late 2023, Rancho Mirage Energy Authority launched an electric bike giveaway program. All Rancho Mirage households are eligible to enter the RMEA Green Wheels Sweepstakes for a chance to win an electric bike (valued at approximately $2,000). The sweepstakes program will run until the end of August 2024.

SBCE Launches Electric Vehicle Rebate Program
Santa Barbara Clean Energy introduced its EV Rebate Program in November 2023, offering residents cash incentives for purchasing or leasing qualifying electric vehicles. This initiative aims to lower the cost barrier to EV adoption and advance the city’s climate action goals. With transportation emissions contributing to 60% of Santa Barbara’s greenhouse gases, the program is crucial for promoting electrification and carbon neutrality. SBCE also plans to roll out incentives for home and business electrification in 2024.
EPIC Promotes Green Transportation with the Your Ride is EPIC Program

Energy for Palmdale’s Independent Choice recently received a $50,000 grant through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program and an additional $100,000 grant from the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District to deploy the Your Ride is EPIC program. The program will distribute plug-in and wall-mounted electric vehicle chargers to eligible households that apply. These chargers will be available until the program funds are depleted. This program complements EPIC’s collaboration with the City of Palmdale to commission a microgrid study to transform the city’s municipal fleet to zero emissions by 2035.

CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY ENERGY

Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) is geographically the largest Community Choice Aggregator in California. Spanning five counties and over 8,000 square miles, 3CE serves more than 1.1 million customers in Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara counties. Nearly 95% of eligible customers are enrolled in 3CE electricity, highlighting the widespread appeal and trust in its services.

3CE Delivers Value to Customers

3CE ensures tangible benefits for its customers, with most enjoying significant savings of 16% to 22% on their electricity bills. And in the 2022–2023 fiscal year, 3CE allocated $16 million for rebates that help customers electrify their transportation, homes, businesses, and agricultural equipment. These incentives further solidify 3CE’s position as a key player in shaping a sustainable energy future for California.

3CE’s Member Agencies Electrify Their Fleets, Install Public EV Chargers

In the past three years, 3CE has awarded nearly $1 million in rebates to member agencies to help electrify their transportation. The City of Capitola unveiled its first all-electric street sweeper, aided by an incentive award of $250,000 from 3CE. Over its lifetime, the R3Air sweeper will save 90 metric tons of carbon emissions, helping Capitola meet the goals set forth in its climate action plan.

3CE also provided a $20,000 rebate for four public electric vehicle charging stations at the new Aptos Branch Library. 3CE previously funded the installation of two Level 2 chargers each at the Capitola Library, Felton Library, and Santa Cruz Main Library in Santa Cruz County, and has funded a total of 77 charging station installations for member agencies in the last three years.

3CE Engages with BioMAT Initiative

3CE is supporting its member agencies by engaging with the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff (BioMAT) initiative. On January 29 and February 1, 3CE submitted two advice letters to the California Public Utilities Commission for the initiative.
These filings will enable 3CE to participate in and receive reimbursement for eligible board-approved power purchase agreements. 3CE’s interest in BioMAT is primarily to support local renewable energy generation from organic waste, which will also benefit member agencies’ waste diversion requirements.

3CE Contracts for Record-Breaking SunZia Wind Project
3CE and Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) signed on to the largest clean energy infrastructure project in U.S. history, inking a 15-year contract with Pattern Energy Group to receive electricity from SunZia Wind, a new renewable energy project in New Mexico delivering power to California via its new 550-mile transmission line. The project, expected to come on line in 2026, will provide 3CE with 200 MW of the facility’s total 3,500 MW output, enough to power 150,000 Central Coast homes. The project is in one of the windiest areas of the country and will provide a continued source of clean electricity in the late afternoon and early evening. It will also reduce the need for fossil fuels to meet peak demand during extreme summer heat conditions.

CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Clean Energy Alliance (CEA) began serving customers in Carlsbad, Del Mar, and Solana Beach in 2021 and expanded to San Marcos and Escondido in April 2023. CEA serves 150,000 customers and has a 95% participation rate.

Oceanside and Vista Launch
Clean Energy Alliance began serving the cities of Oceanside and Vista in April 2024. The addition of Oceanside and Vista increased CEA’s customer accounts by 100,000 to 250,000. The city councils of Vista and Oceanside unanimously approved customers’ default option, Clean Impact Plus—Clean Energy Alliance’s 50% renewable and 75% carbon-free power supply. Additionally, the Vista City Council voted to enroll all municipal facilities in Green Impact—CEA’s 100% renewable option.

New Solar Program Launches
CEA has partnered with Participate.Energy and Tesla Energy to launch an innovative solar and battery storage program, Solar Plus. This program reduces barriers to participation by offering a zero upfront cost option to install solar and battery systems. Participate.Energy will finance and own the systems, while Tesla will design and install the systems. The program will provide customers with easy access to financing and installation, backup power in the event of an emergency, and electric bill savings.

CEA Selects Greg Wade as New CEO and Adds New Full-Time Staff
CEA has welcomed six new full-time staff members including the new CEO, Greg Wade. In his most recent role as city manager of Solana Beach, Wade led the establishment of Solana Energy Alliance (SEA), the first CCA in San Diego County. CEA also welcomes a regulatory analyst, power procurement manager, board secretary/admin assistant, and two key accounts/program managers.
CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE

Founded in 2017, Clean Power Alliance (CPA) is the locally operated nonprofit electricity provider for 33 cities across Los Angeles and Ventura counties, as well as the unincorporated areas of both counties. CPA is the fourth-largest electricity provider in California and leads the nation in serving the most customers with 100% renewable energy. CPA serves approximately 3 million residential and business customers via 1 million customer accounts, providing clean renewable energy at competitive rates.

Power Ready Program to Provide Clean Backup Power to Public Facilities
Clean Power Alliance has launched our new Power Ready program to support community resilience needs throughout Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Power Ready helps CPA’s partner communities make public buildings more energy-resilient by installing solar-plus-storage systems to ensure a backup source of clean energy is available when a power outage occurs. Clean-energy backup power systems are slated to be installed in 11 public buildings located throughout CPA communities by the end of 2025 at no cost to the cities. Power Ready’s 11 backup energy systems are expected to collectively have 1.15 MW of solar photovoltaic systems, paired with 1.17 MW of battery energy storage capacity. This energy will help facilities such as recreation centers, libraries that double as cooling centers, government complexes, and fire stations benefit from an on-site energy resiliency installation with demand-response capabilities that can meet critical power loads in the case of an outage.

CPA Secures Record Amount of Wind Energy
Clean Power Alliance has entered a groundbreaking 15-year power purchase agreement with the SunZia Wind project site in central New Mexico, which will begin commercial operation in 2026 and bring record amounts of clean, renewable wind power to Southern California communities for years to come. The SunZia Wind project will be the largest renewable energy facility ever built in the U.S. and will expand CPA’s diverse clean energy portfolio, providing CPA with 575 MW of wind energy—enough to power 265,834 homes in Southern California annually.

CPA Ranked Number One Green Power Provider in U.S.
Clean Power Alliance is excited to have been designated as the number one green power provider in the nation by the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The NREL 2022 Utility Green Power Rankings, announced in the fall of 2023, lists the top green power providers throughout the United States each year. The national report has historically identified and compared investor-owned utilities’ (IOU) and publicly owned utilities’ (POU) clean energy programs, evaluating green pricing, customer acquisition and sales. The most recent report marked the first time the NREL rankings included the nation’s Community Choice Aggregators. CPA’s green power sales are expanding further in 2024 as three new cities—Hermosa Beach, Monrovia, and Santa Paula—each begin electricity service with CPA at the 100% Green Power energy option.
CLEANPOWERSF

CleanPowerSF offers renewable, affordable and accessible electricity to approximately 385,000 residential and business accounts in San Francisco. To date, CleanPowerSF has contracted for 487 MW of new wind, geothermal, and solar projects and seven battery storage projects serving California, with more new renewable energy and storage projects on the way. CleanPowerSF delivers more than 90% clean and renewable energy for its default Green product and 100% RPS-eligible renewable energy for its voluntary SuperGreen and SuperGreen Saver products.

Winter Energy Bills and PG&E January Rate Increase
To address higher winter energy bills and Pacific Gas & Electric's electricity rate increase on January 1, 2024, CleanPowerSF staff developed proactive messaging to help customers understand the cost drivers on their bills, the impacts of the PG&E rate increase, and ways customers can save through discount programs and energy efficiency tips. CleanPowerSF also stressed that customers would continue to save on their monthly electricity bill by being a CleanPowerSF customer. CleanPowerSF staff provided timely information to customers through blog posts, social media posts, and customer e-newsletters. CleanPowerSF staff also updated customer outreach materials including an "Understanding Your Electricity Bill" one-pager that helps customers understand the charges on their bill and updated its rate webpage with the latest information at CleanPowerSF.org/rates.

‘Understanding Your Electricity Bill’ Webinar for Customers
CleanPowerSF hosted a one-hour educational webinar called “Understanding Your Electricity Bill” on January 25 to help customers learn about seasonal changes in energy usage, the various charges on the electricity bill, and how to access bill assistance and save on their monthly bill. Live interpretation in Spanish and Cantonese was available for webinar attendees. Approximately 89 participants attended the webinar out of 183 registrants, and over 40 organizations were represented, including community-based organizations, San Francisco City departments, energy industry groups, and more. According to a post-webinar survey, most people rated the event highly and approximately 68% of the participants felt the webinar helped them understand their electricity bill better. Watch the recorded webinar here.

New ‘Electrify My Ride’ E-Bike Rebate Program
The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission created a new customer program called Electrify My Ride to advance transportation electrification in San Francisco. Electrify My Ride offers eligible CleanPowerSF customers $1,000 off the purchase price of a new e-bike from participating local bike retailers. To qualify, CleanPowerSF customers must live in an Equity Priority Community defined census tract and be enrolled in an Energy Assistance Program. To promote the Electrify My Ride program, CleanPowerSF will utilize in-language postcards and emails directing customers to program information at sfpuc.org/ElectrifyMyRide. CleanPowerSF will also provide a promotional toolkit to share with key stakeholders and community members, explore paid social media advertising, and develop promotional events for qualifying customers with participating retailers. Check out the Electrify My Ride webpage here.
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 part of the long-term solution to green 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.

MCE Issues Over $1 Billion in Green Bonds to Fund Clean Energy Projects

Through the California Community Choice Financing Authority (CCCFA), MCE issued over $1 billion in green bonds in late 2023. The bond issue prepaid five renewable energy contracts for geothermal, solar, and solar-plus-storage projects. The reduced interest rates save MCE $7 million annually through 2030, a 13% savings on the prepaid energy. The transformative funding approach for clean energy projects leverages financing tools previously used primarily for polluting fossil fuel projects. In 2021, CCCFA became the first municipal agency to utilize this pathway for clean energy projects.

Senior Housing in Marin County Installs New Solar+Storage Systems

In partnership with MCE, three senior housing sites at Sage Lane, owned by Two Valleys Community Land Trust in West Marin County, have activated solar-paired battery storage systems valued at $100,000 to power critical facility needs. MCE led the joint effort to fund the project with no out-of-pocket costs to the land trust. To date, MCE has facilitated over 1.6 MWh of energy storage installations at more than 75 homes and seven critical facilities, including fire stations, health clinics, and community centers.

$1 Million Department of Energy Grant to Fund the Future of Clean Energy Transportation

MCE has received a $1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a strategy for transportation electrification with local partners representing underserved communities. MCE will collaborate with more than 30 organizations to connect with residents and organizations about investments in EV charging and clean mobility. Local residents will be invited to provide input about where to install EV charging and micro-mobility options like car sharing, e-bikes, and scooters. MCE will contribute over $275,000, bringing the total project scope to nearly $1.3 million.
Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) provides clean power at competitive rates, offering consumers a choice of three different plans depending on how much renewable energy they want procured on their behalf. OCPA serves over 231,000 commercial and residential customers in the cities of Buena Park, Fullerton, Huntington Beach and Irvine in Orange County.

OCPA Board Approves Lower Rates, More Clean Energy
OCPA is making a bigger impact in its member communities by providing more renewable energy in 2024 at a lower cost. Beginning in February, OCPA increased the discount on its Basic Choice plan, which now costs 3% less than Southern California Edison’s equivalent generation rate. This discount carries across all OCPA plans, providing relief to all OCPA customers. OCPA’s board of directors also approved plans to increase the discount to 4% depending on energy market conditions in the second half of 2024. In addition, the percentage of renewable energy in two plans has increased as part of OCPA’s commitment to create a greener electrical grid for California. Basic Choice is now at least 44% renewable energy and Smart Choice is now at least 72% renewable energy.

OCPA Joins CalCCA Members in Sacramento
OCPA had a productive trip to Sacramento to participate in Lobby Day 2024, along with 70 colleagues from the 25 Community Choice Aggregation electricity providers in California. OCPA board members and staff attended 13 meetings with legislators, legislative directors, governor’s staff, and a California Public Utilities Commission director and shared highlights of recent successes.

New Online Marketplace for Energy-Saving Programs
OCPA launched an online marketplace that offers home energy-efficient products—many at major discounts—to help customers be more sustainable and reduce energy bill costs. Products available to purchase include a Google Nest smart thermostat, air purifiers, outdoor lawn equipment, lighting, power strips, home energy monitors, and more. In addition, OCPA has partnered with OhmConnect to incentivize customers to save energy. By signing up for the free service, customers can earn rewards such as gift cards or cash via PayPal for helping conserve electricity during peak periods.

OCPA Receives Awards and Recognition
OCPA was proud to be recognized by various groups for its efforts to bring more renewable energy to Orange County businesses and residents. Recent awards and recognition include:

- Top U.S. Green Power Provider by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Environmental, Social, Governance Honoree by the Orange County Business Journal
- Sustainability Advocate of the Year from the Asian Business Association of Orange County
- Elevate Award for empowering and supporting the Filipino business community from the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce

OCPA in the Community
Building its team of community engagement specialists has allowed OCPA to get more involved in community forums, events, and speaking engagements to create awareness about community energy programs.
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 more than 3,600 GWh annually of electricity that is 50% renewable, 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.

Joint Analysis Details Building Electrification Benefits
A first-of-its-kind joint analysis from Peninsula Clean Energy and Silicon Valley Clean Energy found hundreds of dollars of power bill savings for existing single-family homes that switch from gas appliances to standard and high-efficiency electric equipment.

0% Rate Increase for All Customers
Peninsula Clean Energy’s board of directors froze electricity generation rates for all the agency’s customers until at least June 31, 2024, effectively increasing the discount customers receive on electricity for at least six months in the wake of higher PG&E prices.

Peninsula Clean Energy Hires New COO, CFO
Peninsula Clean Energy hired a new chief operating officer, Shalini Swaroop. Shalini joins the team with a wealth of experience as former chief legal and policy officer at MCE. Nick Bijur also joins Peninsula Clean Energy as chief financial officer, following a stint as vice president of finance and treasurer at PG&E.

Community Reinvestment Package
Peninsula Clean Energy’s board of directors approved a $68 million community reinvestment package, including a $300 income-qualified bill credit, financing for residential battery energy storage, loans for local government and school electrification, and funding for energy storage at public buildings and other efforts to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions.

Community Outreach Grants
Sixteen local community organizations received grants totaling $530,000 and ranging from $20,000 to $45,000 each to increase outreach to customers about utility bill discounts and a range of other clean energy program benefits.

‘CHOICE’ WORDS

“Wouldn’t it behoove the powers that be to make these [RA market] transactions more transparent and efficient? It just looks as if the CCAs are holding the bag on RA compliance and dare I say it, unfairly.”

— Gary Ackerman, former executive director, Western Power Trading Forum, in The Friday Burrito
PIONEER COMMUNITY ENERGY

Pioneer is a community-owned, not-for-profit electricity provider serving unincorporated Placer and El Dorado counties and the incorporated areas of Auburn, Colfax, Grass Valley, Lincoln, Loomis, Nevada City, Placerville, and Rocklin. Pioneer serves nearly 170,000 residential and commercial customers and powers the communities it serves with competitive rates, exceptional local service, and a choice of energy options. Pioneer currently holds an A- issuer credit rating from S&P Global Ratings.

Pioneer Offers LED Discount Lighting Program
Pioneer Community Energy, in partnership with Greenlite, is offering discount LED products in retail locations throughout its service area. All products are Pioneer-branded, and discounts apply to a variety of LEDs and products, ranging from replacements for household bulbs to floodlights, vanity lights, motion-sensor lights, power strips, and more. Benefits of the program include cost savings for customers, increased energy efficiency, and the transition to more environmentally friendly lights.

Pioneer Community Energy Online Marketplace
Pioneer Community Energy is making it easier for customers who want help in determining solar and battery options by launching an online marketplace. The marketplace allows customers to search for rooftop solar and battery storage options, then receive three instant bids from qualified installers. This program is designed to help customers simplify the process of shopping for the right product and installer by offering quotes and product options all in one place.

Pioneer’s New Local Feed-In-Tariff Program Promotes Projects in Service Area
Pioneer Community Energy’s Local Feed-In Tariff (Local FIT) program offers developers incentives to build biomass and small hydro projects in our service area and advances our mission to be a community partner in reliable energy solutions. Through this program, Pioneer will purchase power from Local FIT program participants at above-market rates to support the local economy, provide enhanced electric grid stability, and create economic opportunities by incentivizing the development of biomass and run-of-the-river hydroelectric generation facilities in our service territory.

REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY

Launched in 2017, the Redwood Coast Energy Authority serves over 63,000 customers in Humboldt County, including the Blue Lake Rancheria, the Yurok Tribe, and the cities of 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.

RCEA Funds Heat Pump Rebate for Local Nonprofits
Following an outreach campaign to nonprofits within Humboldt County, RCEA selected 10 organizations to upgrade their existing natural gas water heater or space heating system to a heat pump system at little or no cost. RCEA’s Energy Technicians executed no-cost energy assessments, coordinated with local contractors to complete the project, and followed up with inspections of the heat pump system. Several nonprofits conveyed immense gratitude for the collaboration, recognizing that they wouldn’t have transitioned to a new energy-efficient system without the support of RCEA.
RCEA Awarded $3 Million to Assist Rural Fire Stations with Energy Resilience
RCEA was selected to receive a $3 million award under the Regional Resilience Grant Program through the California Office of Planning & Research. The RCEA “Energy-Resilient Fire Services in High-Threat Communities” project will use the funds to construct resilient energy systems at fire stations that serve high-fire-risk areas in Humboldt County. The goal is to provide on-site electricity during emergencies and power outages so that critical services provided by fire stations remain available.

Transportation Team Expanding EV Charging Network at Key Resilience Hub
This spring, using a $700,000 grant from the California Energy Commission, RCEA will issue a solicitation to install Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations at strategic sites in Humboldt County. The project expands the existing RCEA charging station network and will focus on placing charging stations in rural community service centers. This expansion emphasizes community resiliency and filling in gaps in RCEA’s rural charging network to increase access to EV charging for rural, low-income residents.

RCEA Completes Humboldt’s Electric Future Report
In Q3 2023, RCEA staff completed the Humboldt’s Electric Future report, the culmination of an internal integrated resource planning effort, including online and in-person community engagement workshops, to advise RCEA’s 2024 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) to the CPUC. The report is published on RCEA’s website and staff intend to repeat the planning effort in odd-numbered years between IRPs, with the goal of engaging a broader cross-section of the community in 2025.

RCEA Joins Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff Program
In November 2023, RCEA’s board elected to join the state’s Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff (BioMAT) program, which provides fixed pricing to new bioenergy generators 3 to 5 MW in size and cost recovery to load-serving entities for the market value of the contracts. In January 2024, RCEA and three other CCAs filed necessary documentation with the California Public Utilities Commission to participate in BioMAT and are currently awaiting approval.

Drifter Energy Storage Service Agreement
In January 2024, RCEA and Prologis Energy signed a full tolling energy storage service agreement for 50 MW of the Drifter Energy Storage project, a four-hour lithium-ion battery system being developed in Moorpark.
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER

San Diego Community Power (SDCP) is the electricity provider for the cities of Chula Vista, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City and San Diego, as well as the unincorporated communities of San Diego County. Formed in 2019, SDCP is now serving nearly 1 million customers and is the second-largest CCA in California.

SDCP Partnership Offers $1M in Grants to Climate-Focused Nonprofits
In February, SDCP, in partnership with San Diego Foundation, announced the second round of the Community Clean Energy Grant Program. Launched in 2023, the program aims to fund new and existing projects that move communities towards a healthier, more sustainable, clean energy future. Funding is made possible by SDCP with additional support from Calpine Energy Solutions. Proposed projects can include climate literacy, green jobs training, home energy improvements and solar panel installation. Grant applications are due by 5 p.m. on April 5, 2024. To apply, visit SDFoundation.org/apply.

SDCP Sponsors San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering
This spring, SDCP sponsored the San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering Expo Day in partnership with local nonprofit Generation STEAM, an affiliate of BIOCOM California. SDCP staff were able to share the wonders of renewable energy through a diorama that demonstrates how CCAs work to bring cleaner, greener energy to Californians and debut a new youth activity booklet with energy-saving tips for all ages. The largest event of its kind in Southern California, it enabled SDCP to connect with customers from across the San Diego region for a great day of science, engineering, and learning!

Conference Celebrates Women in Energy with SDCP
This International Women’s Day, the women of San Diego Community Power led a panel at the Women Who Inspire Conference, where high school students can learn from women in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) about challenges they’ve faced and overcome. SDCP’s panel, “Women in Energy: The Path to an Inclusive Green Economy with San Diego Community Power,” was moderated by Chief Executive Officer Karin Burns and discussed advancing women’s engagement in the energy sector. The panelists, Director of People Chandra Pugh, Senior Settlements Manager Tacko Diaite-Koumba and Community Engagement Manager Xiomalys Crespo, shared their personal experiences as women in the clean energy space and how they are prioritizing inclusivity within their respective roles.

Power100 Champion James Gang Printing Prioritizes Sustainability
James Gang Printing owner Travis Doroski recently sat down with SDCP to discuss how he keeps his business clean, green, and sustainable. Committed to powering a cleaner, greener energy future, James Gang Printing joined with SDCP in 2023 to become a Power100 Champion, opting up to 100% renewable energy. Power100 Champions enabled James Gang Printing to further solidify their commitment to being the greenest full-service printing company in San Diego. For more on James Gang and their commitment to sustainability, visit SDCP’s website.
San José Clean Energy (SJCE) serves almost one million people and businesses, including 350,000 accounts in the City of San José, the largest city in the Bay Area and one of the nation’s most diverse. SJCE 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 clean energy options: GreenSource is SJCE’s standard service with 60% renewable energy, and TotalGreen is SJCE’s premium service for 100% renewable energy. SJCE also offers SJ Cares, which gives customers with low incomes an extra 10% discount on SJCE’s rates.

Celebrating 5 Years of Powering Our Community
SJCE turned five! The SJCE team received a commendation from the San José City Council, celebrating efforts to bring more renewable energy to San José, keep costs low, and uplift the community. Since launching service in 2019, SJCE has reduced carbon emissions by over 4.7M metric tons and maintained a participation rate of 97%. In partnership with the California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission, community-focused programs including CALeVIP, energy-efficient upgrades for businesses and homes, Solar Access, Peak Rewards and the SJ Cares discount have saved customers $29 million and 18 million kWh, and avoided 2,300 metric tons of carbon emissions. You can view their impact report [here](#).

The city also held a community celebration featuring a variety of early San José Clean Energy supporters:

- Assemblymember Ash Kalra, who wrote the memo to found SJCE when he was on the City Council
- Former Mayor Sam Liccardo, who championed SJCE’s start and the city’s Climate Smart action plan
- Supervisor Sylvia Arenas, who voted to start SJCE
- San José Mayor Matt Mahan, who served on the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission before his election

NBC and Telemundo Weather Anchor Cinthia Pimental led the celebration, honoring several early advocates, community partners, youth leaders, and business champions.

SJCE Offers Significant Rate Discounts for Customers
San José Clean Energy is proud to set its current rates at a savings of 8% for the average residential customer, compared to Pacific Gas & Electric’s bundled service. It is also expanding eligibility of its SJ Cares discount to more than 17,000 affordable housing units. This is the first time the discount usually reserved for CARE/ERA customers will be tied to an address instead of an account holder, speeding up the assistance for vulnerable populations. The team is also piloting an Emergency Bill Relief program that will help stop disconnections by working with community partners to offer bill credits of up to $1,600 to wipe out debt and help with ongoing payments. The pilot of 100 participants starts in March.

SJCE Works with CalCCA to Modify Resource Adequacy Program
In February, SJCE submitted written and verbal comments to the CPUC related to modifying the Resource Adequacy (RA) program. These comments stressed the need for affordable prices and highlighted the tight RA market conditions.
More specifically, SJCE strongly supported a temporary system and flexible RA penalty waiver, which would encourage load-serving entities to continue to procure RA while easing the extreme price increases that erode electric service affordability. SJCE staff also supported a CalCCA proposal to request that the CPUC engage the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in ensuring RA rates are just and reasonable.

National Honor Boosts Electrification
SJCE just landed some big help in its efforts to increase building-electrification customer program offerings in 2024 that will better serve its 45% renter population. The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy selected the City of San José as one of 10 local governments to receive technical assistance to improve rental-home energy efficiency while also keeping housing affordable. The project will be a partnership between ACEEE, San José Clean Energy, and multiple community-based organizations. ACEEE will provide support in the form of soliciting community feedback on barriers to energy upgrades, program design recommendations that are targeted to renters, and renter-protection policies to include in the programs and beyond. For more information, visit aceee.org/energy-equity-for-renters.

New PPA Supports Jobs and Clean Energy
SJCE recently signed a 20-year power purchase agreement with Longroad Development to build a new solar and battery storage project in Merced County. This project is expected to be on line in 2027. SJCE has achieved about 800 MW of commitments from more than 17 contracts for new clean energy resources, boosting renewable energy development, green jobs, and economic growth. These projects will not only increase the renewable content of SJCE’s energy to at least 75% by 2027, but they also provide highly valuable and zero-emission resource adequacy to help maintain the reliability of California’s electric grid.

SILICON VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Launched in April 2017, Silicon Valley Clean Energy serves 275,000 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. As a public agency, net revenues are returned to the community to keep rates competitive and promote clean energy programs. Silicon Valley Clean Energy is advancing innovative solutions to fight climate change by decarbonizing the grid, transportation, and buildings. Learn more at SVCleanEnergy.org.

CEO Retires, SVCE Welcomes New Leadership
In August 2023, SVCE CEO Girish Balachandran announced his retirement planned for March 31, 2024. Balachandran has led the clean energy agency since 2018, and achievements under his leadership include $3.6 billion committed to long-term renewable energy contracts, building strong financial reserves that have earned two investment-grade credit ratings, directing $20 million for customer and community relief during the pandemic, and growing staff from about a dozen employees to nearly 60. Balachandran was recently recognized for his successful leadership of SVCE, receiving the 2023 Champion of the Year Award from the Cities Association of Santa Clara County (CASCC).
Monica Padilla Selected as Next CEO
In November 2023, the SVCE board of directors selected Monica Padilla as the agency’s next CEO. Padilla has led power policy, planning, procurement, regulatory, operations, and compliance as the chief operating officer and director of power resources for the past five years. Beyond the agency’s power supply, Padilla’s leadership and industry expertise is exemplified in her work with the board and staff on agency-wide strategic planning and policy and procurement collaboration with CCAs across the state. Padilla will assume CEO responsibilities on April 1, 2024, and her previous role as director of power resources has been filled by Kris Van Vactor. Van Vactor joined SVCE in 2022 as the wholesale energy markets manager.

SVCE Closes Third Prepay Deal—Collective $14M in Annual Savings Through Innovative Financing Solution
SVCE closed its third prepayment transaction for clean energy project bonds, which offers substantial savings to the agency, a benefit passed on to customers through rate stability and maintaining a rate discount. The savings are approximately $7.7 million annually, a 13.1% discount on the cost of power representing about 77 MW of around-the-clock supply. The Clean Energy Project Bonds, valued at $1.1 billion, support the commitment of SVCE to be financially responsible and sound, which allows the agency to support customers and the community with their ongoing efforts to lower emissions for a safer, cleaner future. The goal of prepayment transactions is to reduce the cost of power purchases on quantities delivered under the prepay structure with minimal risk to SVCE.

SVCE Contracts for 100 MW from New Wind Project
SVCE signed a contract to receive clean electricity from the new-build SunZia wind project located in Lincoln, Torrance, and San Miguel counties in New Mexico. The project is expected to come on line in 2026 and will provide over 3,500 MW of new wind energy generation to the California Independent System Operator. The total electricity from the project is enough to power the needs of more than 3 million Americans. The SunZia Wind and Transmission projects are expected to generate $20.5 billion in total economic benefit to the region and will create more than 2,000 jobs at peak construction and more than 100 full-time permanent jobs to operate and maintain the facility. The contract is a result of a joint request for offers issued by SVCE and Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) in 2022. To date, SVCE and 3CE have signed 12 joint power purchase agreements, totaling 1,513 MW of clean energy and 316 MW of storage.

SVCE Customers Secure Millions in Home Upgrade Rebates
SVCE customers have received or reserved over $2.8 million in rebates through the FutureFit Homes rebate program. In the last quarter alone, SVCE had a whopping 345 applications approved, allowing customers to begin their electrification projects. To keep up with the demand, the SVCE board of directors approved an extra $3 million in rebates, allowing SVCE to serve even more customers through the FutureFit Homes program. The program currently provides rebates for the installation of heat pump water heaters and HVAC systems, as well as prewiring for electrification, and was recently expanded to include induction cooktops with an adder for induction-friendly cookware.

SONOMA CLEAN POWER
Sonoma Clean Power provides cleaner electricity and energy-related climate solutions to Sonoma and Mendocino counties. In downtown Santa Rosa, SCP operates the only Advanced Energy Center in the United States, dedicated to helping customers transition to 100% renewable energy for their homes, businesses, and cars. SCP is also the only power provider in California offering 100% renewable, locally generated energy 24 hours per day, every day of the year.
SCP’s New E-Bike Commuter Program
In February, Sonoma Clean Power launched its E-Bike Commuter Program for Sonoma and Mendocino county businesses, nonprofits, government entities, tribal nations, and educational institutions looking to support staff with clean commuting options. Eligible organizations can apply for grants of up to $20,000 from SCP to start e-bike commuting programs. The funds can be used to purchase or lease e-bikes, safety and security equipment, bike racks, chargers, and perks for commuting staff. The application period ends on April 3, 2024.

Celebrating 10 Years of Service
Sonoma Clean Power will mark a decade of service in May. To celebrate this milestone, SCP is planning a year-long campaign to highlight local progress over the past 10 years and a series of community-focused events and outreach efforts. The agency remains steadfast in its commitment to offering customers a choice, upholding public decision-making, providing cleaner energy, and creating climate solutions tailored to local needs. Additionally, SCP continues to invest revenues locally to support community initiatives, energy education, rate stability, and unique customer offerings.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

Valley Clean Energy Alliance—or VCE—is the official electricity provider for residential and commercial customers in the cities of Woodland, Winters, and Davis, and unincorporated Yolo County. We’ve been serving a customer base of over 60,000 since 2018.

VCE Is Now Less Expensive than Pacific Gas & Electric
In response to rising costs of all household essentials (including electricity), VCE’s board of directors made the decision to provide rate relief totaling about $1.6 million in 2024. This rate relief, beginning in March 2024, will come in the form of on-bill credits and is a 3.5% discount on electric generation for low-income and medically vulnerable customers and 1% for all other customers. This means that VCE is now the cheapest option for electricity for customers in Winters, Davis, Woodland, and unincorporated Yolo County.

VCE Expanding AgFIT Program
AgFIT, or Agricultural Flexible Irrigation Technology, is designed to help manage energy costs simply while providing customers with maximum flexibility. The AgFIT Pilot Program provides growers with lucrative incentives for irrigation automation and uses scheduling software to better manage energy costs. The pilot tariff is one cost for electricity, inclusive of demand charges, delivery, and generation. The original pilot is going into its third and final year, and a recent decision by the California Public Utilities Commission expands the pilot across PG&E’s service territory, as well as removing the original 5 MW cap and extending the pilot to non-agricultural end uses.
CALCCA MEMBERS

- Apple Valley Choice Energy
- Ava Community Energy
- Central Coast Community Energy
- Clean Energy Alliance
- Clean Power Alliance
- CleanPowerSF
- Desert Community Energy
- Energy for Palmdale’s Independent Choice
- Lancaster 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
- Kings River Conservation District
- Tuolomne County