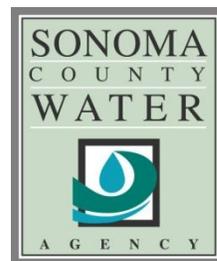


Sonoma Clean Power Update

Welcome to the First Sonoma Clean Power Update!

The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to provide a regular stream of information regarding the community choice aggregation effort to the public and interested parties. We thank you for your interest in this project and please let us know if you have any feedback.



Upcoming Public Presentations

July 24 at 3pm - City of Santa Rosa

August 15 at 6pm - Town of Windsor

August 20 at 5pm - City of Sonoma

August 28 at 10:30am - City of Cloverdale

For more information, contact [Amy Bolten](#).

History and Status: Sonoma Clean Power

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) is an electricity procurement framework established in 2002 by California Assembly Bill 117 and refined in 2011 with Senate Bill 790. CCA is a market-based mechanism that allows counties and cities to pool the power demand of their residents, businesses and governments to provide alternate sources of electricity. While electricity is procured and delivered through this new governmental entity, power transmission, distribution and billing all remain with the existing power supplier which in Sonoma County's case is Pacific Gas and Electric for most customers. At the inception of a CCA, all power customers within the defined area automatically become customers of the CCA and can opt-out of the program at any time.

On March 11, 2011, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors directed the Water Agency to start the process of investigating Community Choice Aggregation for Sonoma County. Under the working name, Sonoma Clean Power, a feasibility study has been performed as well as a market survey of County residents and businesses. Currently a business plan is being developed to further refine costs and expected power rates. This plan is expected to be complete by the end of 2012.

Request for Information Distributed

A Request for Information (RFI) has been released to potential power suppliers for Sonoma Clean Power. The RFI was issued requesting information from companies on experience, possible rates, efficiency programs, financing mechanisms and other services that would be required to help shape the SCP program design and implementation plan. The initial response from suppliers will provide an initial indication of the cost of electricity and resultant rates for Sonoma Clean Power customers. Results from the RFI will be integrated into the Implementation Plan, which is scheduled to be completed in August.

Follow-up Links

[AB 117](#)

[SB 790](#)

[Feasibility study](#)

[Residential market survey](#)

[Commercial market survey](#)

Other CCA News:

Richmond Joins Marin Energy Authority

Richmond City Council voted to become the first California city outside of Marin County to participate in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). At the June 19, 2012, City Council meeting, Richmond City Council elected to join the Marin Energy Authority (MEA) and participate in the Marin Clean Energy CCA program, which will provide customers with a choice to purchase electricity with higher renewable energy content. This innovative policy decision demonstrates Richmond's leadership and commitment to greening the local economy and achieving the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Richmond is advancing renewable energy policies such as CCA to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions and to attract more green technology businesses to locate in the city. Richmond was recently selected as the preferred site for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Second Campus and is currently developing a green business cluster along the South Shoreline around the future LBNL campus. Richmond City Council recently adopted a General Plan Update 2030 that includes an innovative Energy and Climate and Health and Wellness Elements.

[Click here to see the full article](#)

Community Choice Aggregation Around the Country

Community Choice Aggregation is currently statutorially allowed in six states - California, Massachusetts, Illinois, Ohio, New Jersey and Rhode Island. Historically CCA has been used as a tool to provide an alternative to residents who are looking for lower power costs than the incumbent energy provider, however increasingly local governments are implementing CCA programs to provide higher levels of renewable energy and develop a revenue stream to reinvest back into the local community. In the future we will be sharing stories about specific CCA programs around the country, but for our first newsletter we would like to give just a few statistics about successful programs outside of California:

- Illinois has the fastest rate of CCA adoption in the United States. Nearly 300 municipalities approved CCA referenda in 2012.
- Massachusetts has the longest running CCA in the nation. The Cape Light Compact has been operational since 1998 and serves 200,000 customers in 21 towns.
- Ohio's NOPEC is the nations largest CCA with 500,000 customers in 9 counties. They have achieved a rate savings of \$127 million since 2000.
- Rhode Island has a single CCA serving a municipal load of 36 cities, which have saved \$18 million in electricity costs since 1999.

[Click here for more information on a state-by-state basis.](#)