Clean Energy & Jobs Oakland

Join us in calling on Oakland City Council to support local clean energy development and clean energy jobs through an East Bay Community Choice energy program.

The goal of the Clean Energy & Jobs Oakland Campaign is to develop local clean energy resources and create jobs through establishing, in conjunction with other East Bay cities, a Community Choice energy program.

Community Choice energy, provided for by AB 117 (2002), enables cities and other jurisdictions to choose where the electricity provided to their residents and businesses will come from. This means that local communities can decide to procure their electricity from renewable energy sources: either by purchasing renewable electricity on the market, or more importantly, by developing local renewable energy resources in the community. Under a Community Choice energy program, the incumbent utility company (PG&E) continues to deliver electricity and service customers.

Greenhouse Gas Reductions, Jobs, and other Community Benefits

Community Choice energy is an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the impact of climate change by cutting energy consumption, switching to renewable energy sources, and building local renewable electricity generation. By developing local clean energy resources, Community Choice programs can spur local economic development in the community, provide hundreds of good local clean energy jobs, retain electricity revenues for investment in the community, offer competitive electric utility bills and price stability, reduce pollution, and provide other community benefits. We seek to maximize community participation in the governance of such a program.

Now is the Time

The East Bay is ripe for a Community Choice energy program. Marin’s program is up and running and Sonoma’s is set to launch in 2014. San Francisco has also taken steps to make Community Choice a reality. The mayors of Berkeley, Albany, and Emeryville, as well as Mayor Quan, have expressed an interest in exploring a partnership to establish an East Bay Community Choice energy program. A strong expression of support by Oakland, which represents about a quarter of the electricity use in the East Bay, is essential to move this forward.

This campaign is being organized by the Local Clean Energy Alliance and the Energy Committee of the Oakland Climate Action Coalition (OCAC), as part of the OCAC’s efforts to address climate change through sustainable economic development.

For more information on the Clean Energy & Jobs Oakland campaign, and to get involved, see http://www.localcleanenergy.org/policy-platform/campaign2012 or contact Colin Miller: colin@baylocalize.org, 510-834-0420