



Proposal: Community Advisory Committee Criteria and Selection Process

The East Bay Clean Power Alliance looks forward to a vibrant East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) program. Active participation by Alameda's diverse communities in the decision-making of the program as it takes shape and develops over time will be vital to ensuring a Community Choice program that works for the County's residents and businesses.

The participation (through the now disbanded Community Choice Steering Committee) of environmental justice, labor, renewable energy, social justice, and other community groups from across the County has been instrumental in shaping the Community Choice program to date. The Community Advisory Committee¹ is a way for these groups to continue to be constructively engaged.

For the Community Advisory Committee to be effective in addressing the concerns of people throughout Alameda County, it will be important that the application and selection process for the specified nine Committee members ensure that the Committee represents the main community stakeholder constituencies in Alameda County.

We propose the following guiding principles for selection of the EBCE Community Advisory Committee members

Membership Criteria

- Members should be chosen according to an agreed-upon set of criteria related to effectively representing community needs and interests in support of a Community Choice program. It will be critical to the effectiveness of the Community Advisory Committee that it operates independently of the JPA Board of Directors.
- Members should represent the diversity of Alameda County with respect to gender, age, ethnicity, race and geographic region within Alameda County, and include representatives from low-income and working class communities.
- Members should represent major organizations and interest groups within principal community constituencies: social justice, environmental justice, renewable energy advocates, labor, workforce development, minority and small businesses, community economic development, environment, housing and land use.
- Members should be selected through an application process, such as that proposed below, by which the applicants demonstrate broad support from within their respective constituencies.

Selection Process

1. The JPA Board of Directors would issue an open call for applications for Advisory Committee member candidates.
2. In their applications, candidates would indicate which constituency they are applying to represent, provide background information as to their interest, experience and qualifications, and submit nominations from three organizations representing the corresponding constituency and/or letters of recommendation addressing the agreed-upon criteria.
3. A committee consisting of three community members of the disbanded Alameda County Steering Committee and three JPA Board members would vet the applicants and propose a slate of nine candidates representing the nine principal constituencies, taking into account gender, ethnic, racial, income, and geographic diversity.
4. The JPA Board of Directors would consider the proposed slate, modify it if necessary, and vote approval.

¹ Section 4.9 of the Alameda County Community Choice Joint Power Authority Agreement, October 4, 2016 version:

Community Advisory Committee. The Board shall establish a Community Advisory Committee consisting of nine members, none of whom may be voting members of the Board. The function of the Community Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Board of Directors on all subjects related to the operation of the CCA Program as set forth in a work plan adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time, with the exception of personnel and litigation decisions. The Community Advisory Committee is advisory only, and shall not have decision-making authority, or receive any delegation of authority from the Board of Directors. The Board shall publicize the opportunity to serve on the Community Advisory Committee, and shall appoint members of the Community Advisory Committee from those individuals expressing interest in serving, and who represent a diverse cross-section of interests, skill sets and geographic regions. Members of the Community Advisory Committee shall serve staggered four-year terms (the first term of three of the members shall be two years, and four years thereafter), which may be renewed. A member of the Community Advisory Committee may be removed by the Board of Directors by majority vote. The Board of Directors shall determine whether the Community Advisory Committee members will receive a stipend and/or be entitled to reimbursement for expenses.