We want a Community Choice energy program for Alameda County that invests in the development of local renewable energy resources as key to providing many community benefits. As a public, not-for-profit alternative to PG&E for providing electricity services, such a program can bring equitable economic development and jobs to communities throughout the County, along with increased renewable energy resources and reduced greenhouse gas pollution.

Community-based development, control, and ownership of renewable resources can retain energy wealth within our communities, spur economic development in low income communities and communities of color, create family-sustaining and union jobs, and benefit local businesses.

To ensure the creation of a Community Choice program focused on delivering these kinds of community benefits, we call for the Joint Powers Agreement that establishes the program to include:

1. Direct community involvement in the governance of the program

2. A stated commitment to the goals put forward for Alameda County’s Community Choice program (attached).

[Over for signatory organizations]
Signatories:
This call is signed by the following organizations, as of July 26, 2016:

1. Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)
2. Causa Justa Just Cause
3. Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
4. Sustainable Economies Law Center
5. International Longshore and Warehouse Workers Union, Local 6
6. Vote Solar
7. Sun Light & Power
8. Alameda County Democratic Party
9. Allen Temple Health & Social Services
10. Oakland Climate Action Coalition
11. PUEBLO - People United for a Better Life in Oakland
12. Emerald Cities Oakland
13. Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club
14. Berkeley Climate Action Coalition
15. Planting Justice
16. Alameda Interfaith Climate Action Network
17. Sunflower Alliance
18. Ecology Center
19. Transition Albany
20. Local Clean Energy Alliance
21. Earth Justice Associates of The First Unitarian Church of Oakland
22. Kehilla Community Synagogue
23. Carbon Neutral Albany
24. Alliance for Climate Education
25. SunWork Renewable Energy Projects
26. Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
27. Rooted in Community
28. MyDomino
29. California Nurses Association
30. Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter
31. California Interfaith Power & Light
32. Communities for a Better Environment
33. Everett and Jones Barbeque - Jack London
34. Mujeres Unidas y Activas (MUA)
35. Center for Environmental Health
36. Community Energy Services Organization
37. League of Conservation Voters of the East Bay
38. West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
39. Oakland Rising
40. Bay Area Labor Committee for Peace & Justice
41. House Kombucha
42. East Bay Young Democrats
43. Berkeley Community Choice Energy Working Group
44. Green Party of Alameda County
45. 350 Bay Area
46. Transition Berkeley
47. Skyline Community Church
48. Energy Solidarity Cooperative
49. Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
50. Rooted in Resilience (formerly Bay Localize)
51. PLACE for Sustainable Living
52. Urban Peace Movement
53. Bay Area Green Tours
54. API Youth Promoting Advocacy & Leadership (AYPAL)
55. Oakland Mind
56. The Playground Affordable Housing Corporation
Goals for Alameda County’s Community Choice Energy Program

The following goals have been formulated by County staff and approved by the County’s Community Choice Steering Committee:

Overall rates and customer bills that are lower or competitive with those offered by PG&E for similar products.

Differentiated energy options (e.g. 33% or 50% qualified renewable) for default service, and a 100% renewable content option in which customers may “opt-up” and voluntarily participate.

An electric supply portfolio with a lower greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity than PG&E, and one that supports the achievement of Alameda County’s Climate Action Plan greenhouse gas reduction goals and comparable goals of all participating jurisdictions.

An energy portfolio that prioritizes the use and development of renewable resources and minimizes the use of unbundled renewable energy credits.

An energy portfolio that incorporates energy efficiency and demand response programs and has aggressive reduced consumption goals.

A program that demonstrates quantifiable economic benefits to the region (e.g. union and prevailing wage jobs, local workforce development, new energy programs, and increased local energy investments).

A program that promotes personal and community ownership of renewable resources, spurring equitable economic development and increased resilience, especially in low income communities and communities of color, which are most impacted by climate change.

An administering Agency that is financially sustainable, responsive to County and regional priorities, and well managed.