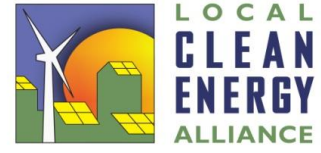


East Bay Shared Solar Collaborative



The East Bay Shared Solar Collaborative (the Collaborative) is promoting the design, development, and building of community-owned and controlled shared solar energy projects to further community economic empowerment, advance social equity, and strengthen community resilience.

Convened by the Local Clean Energy Alliance, the Collaborative includes the Sustainable Economies Law Center, Cutting Edge Capital, Energy Solidarity Cooperative, Oakland Climate Action Coalition, and individual energy sector experts.

Why?

Low-income communities and communities of color that have suffered most from our fossil fuel economy have also largely been excluded from the benefits of renewable energy. The Collaborative is



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developing a model of community shared solar that enables low-income families and renters to benefit from solar energy by investing in a share of a nearby solar facility. This share would offer electricity bill savings and a wealth-building opportunity through ownership of solar energy resources. Unlike most community solar projects around the country, this program prioritizes a path to ownership by community members, inclusion of low-income communities, and other community benefits.

Why does Community Choice energy matter?

The Collaborative is based in Alameda County, California where Community Choice energy has provided an opportunity—not generally available in California’s investor-owned utility territories—for the development of community shared solar. Community Choice programs have nearly unlimited flexibility in choosing the sources and pricing options associated with the electric power they supply. While required to comply with state mandates regarding the Renewable Portfolio Standard, resource adequacy, and environmental justice, Community Choice programs are not otherwise constrained by California Public Utility Commission regulation and/or the preferences of the investor-owned utilities.

Alameda County’s Community Choice energy program, East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), was established in January 2017 and will begin providing electricity to residents and businesses in the spring of 2018. To date, no other Community Choice energy program in California has

provided a framework to promote community owned and controlled shared solar projects. Thanks in large part to the East Bay Clean Power Alliance, an Alameda County-wide alliance of community-focused, clean energy advocates, EBCE has stated a commitment to developing local renewable resources, such as community-scale solar.



The Collaborative is designing a community shared solar program for adoption by EBCE. In addition, as proof of concept, it is working with community members to develop a demonstration shared solar project within the EBCE framework. The design of a community shared solar program for EBCE can have broad applicability throughout California's growing Community Choice market.

Goals

While shared solar projects are appearing around the country, they are generally not community based. Most suffer from two limitations: (1) they rarely promote local ownership and (2) they rarely are structured to serve low-income communities.

The Collaborative has developed the following goals for the creation of a community shared solar program within EBCE.

Goal 1: Design a community shared solar program that enables ownership of local renewable energy resources by community participants.

- The program should enable and promote participation and ownership for low-income communities and communities of color.
- The program should strive for community members to own the shared solar facility as early as possible. When not initially possible due to limited upfront capital, the program should promote temporary ownership of the shared solar facility by local community investors and third parties for the benefit of the participating community members until ownership can be transferred.

Goal 2: Design a community shared solar program that maximizes as many of the following community economic development benefits as possible:

- Equitable local development that leverages local capital, generates wealth for existing residents, and does not contribute to displacement.
- Electricity bill savings for participating community members.
- Creation of good jobs that meet union or union-like labor standards.
- Provision of workforce development opportunities.
- Siting of resources that produce health and environmental co-benefits such as reducing pollution from power plants.

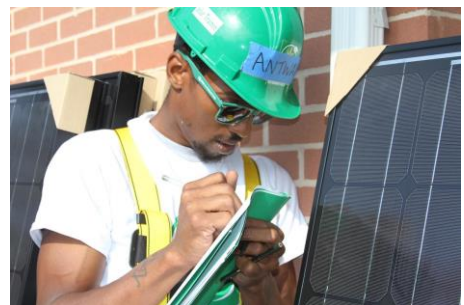


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