

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY

What is CCE?

Community Choice Energy (CCE)* is a municipal program that buys electricity for local residents and businesses. Its goal is to purchase power with higher renewable and lower carbon content than is currently available. It also strives to offer competitive rates and reinvest in local energy infrastructure.

There are currently three CCEs operating in California. Each of them provides greener power at lower costs to the ratepayers in their communities.

**MCE Clean Energy
Sonoma Clean Power
Lancaster Choice Energy**

**Also known as CCA or Community Choice Aggregation*

How will it work?

If Mendocino County forms a CCE, it will purchase electricity on your behalf, from sources that are cleaner, greener and more local. This will offer you a range of energy choices for the first time.

Formation of a CCE won't interrupt your service in any way—it will remain just as it's always been. PG&E will continue to deliver the electricity from the grid to your house or business, maintain the power lines, read your meter, and send you a single consolidated bill. The only change will be an opportunity to choose between different energy options.

The goal of a CCE is to offer electricity options with higher renewable energy content than PG&E's standard offering while retaining competitive prices, thus reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. If your home or business is in a CCE service area, you will be automatically enrolled in the program. You can choose to opt out and return to PG&E bundled service at any time.

What's being done?

Mendocino County is exploring the possibility of launching a community power program to benefit our county, and to help achieve local climate action goals.

If we decide to move forward, the County Board of Supervisors and each City Council will decide whether to form a CCE, or to join an existing program.

A CCE in the County would be a public, non-profit agency funded by electricity ratepayers—your tax dollars would not be used to support this program.

Why are we exploring this program?

Choice

CCEs introduce competition into the marketplace. They provide ratepayers with a choice about where to buy electricity, and about how green they want it to be.

Sustainability

Formation of a CCE will allow us to reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from fossil-fuel based energy generation. And since CCEs are non-profit organizations, they're accountable to the communities they serve—not to private shareholders.

Economics

Existing CCEs in the Bay Area have been able to save their customers money while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions being produced in their area.

SURPLUS FUNDS FROM A CCE CAN BE REINVESTED IN OUR COMMUNITY TO:

- Develop local renewable energy projects
- Create local green collar jobs
- Develop energy efficiency programs
- Support local school energy programs
- Reduce your rates