

ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Chris Bazar Agency Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Alameda County To Study Feasibility Of A Community Choice Aggregation Program
County Seeks Steering Committee Members, Consultant for Technical Study

Oakland, CA –March 16, 2015 Alameda County has accelerated its efforts to establish a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program by launching a technical study and formally announcing the creation of a county-wide Steering Committee.

Community Choice allows local governments to aggregate electricity demand within their jurisdictions in order to procure or develop electricity for its customers while partnering with the local utility that continues to provide billing and delivery services. A CCA program could provide lower electricity rates, sharp reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and opportunities for local economic development.

"A well-designed Community Choice program promises to provide Alameda County, its cities, residents and businesses with a cornucopia of benefits," said Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Chair of the County Transportation and Planning Committee, the body leading the effort. "Marin and Sonoma counties have already shown that it can be done. We want to see if a program can be established here that will have an even greater impact than the existing CCAs have had."

The County and Community Development Agency (CDA) staff are seeking members for a Steering Committee to advise the County during the entire formation process. The Committee will continue in that role if the County and its cities decide that a CCA program is viable and can deliver significant benefits to residents and businesses.

Steering Committee applications are available on the County's CCA website at http://www.acgov.org/cda/planning/cca/index.htm or requested from County CDA staff by sending an email to Bruce Jensen at CCA@acgov.org. Any interested citizen may apply for a membership on the Steering Committee. Qualifications and instructions for the Applications may be found on the Application forms. Applications must be completed and submitted by April 7, 2015 either by email or by mail to Bruce Jensen, Alameda County Planning Department, 224 West Winton Avenue, Room 111, Hayward, CA 94544

The County will also soon release a Request for Proposals for a consultant to conduct the technical study. The study will assess the potential impacts of a CCA program on electricity rates, GHG emissions, and local employment opportunities.

Seven states have laws enabling the establishment of Community Choice programs. In California, CCAs are striving to provide competitive pricing, an increasing percentage of electricity generated by renewable energy sources, local economic development benefits, and tailored energy efficiency programs.

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