

# Alameda County Community Choice Aggregation Energy Program

July 14, 2016

### What is "Community Choice Aggregation?"



#### **Joint Powers Authority that purchases:**

- electricity on behalf of its customers
- wholesale electricity contracts and/or operates own electrical power generating plants



This electricity is transmitted to the customer by PG&E



All metering, billing, and customer service remains with PG&E



**Purchases only electricity – not gas** 

### **Customer's Perspective**



Transmission should be seamless



By State law, customer should receive two "opt out" notices



Opt-out notices should compare PG&E rates with projected CCA rates



If customer does not opt-out, then the customer is automatically enrolled and will receive PG&E invoices with line-items for CCA electricity and transmission fee

#### What are the benefits of a CCA?



Increased renewable energy (e.g., solar and wind)



Less greenhouse gas emissions



**Competitive electrical rates** 



CCA is controlled locally by a publicly accountable Board of Directors

#### **Process for Creation of a CCA**



#### **Public process includes:**





The Authority must adopt an implementation plan approved by the CPUC



The Authority must sign a contract for energy delivery with PG&E

### **Progress Made on Proposed CCA**



County allocated \$1.32 million to explore CCA creation



County retained a consultant to assist formation



The County assembled a 40 member steering committee, consisting of City, labor, and environmental representatives



**County Counsel drafted JPA** 



Steering Committee and City Attorneys provided feedback

Cities are now providing policy comments to County

#### **Implementation Timeline**



Adoption of the JPA by County



Adoption of the JPA by Cities



First JPA Meeting



Launch and Phase-In of Program

**Advisory Committee** 

Draft JPA calls for the creation of a "Community Advisory Committee" consisting of 9 members who "represent a diverse cross-section of interests and skill sets" to advise the Board on all matters relating to the CCA.

Does not specify how the committee members are selected

Does not ensure equitable geographic representation

# Policy Consideration #2 Advisory Committee Chair Serving as "Ex Officio Board Member"

A future JPA draft will mandate the Advisory Committee Chair to serve as an "Ex Officio Board Member". This person will not have voting rights but would attend Board meetings and can provide comments.

This provision could allow an unelected community member to influence Board's decisions

# Policy Consideration #3 Voting Process

#### Draft JPA calls for two types of voting:

"Percentage Vote"

- 2 "Voting Shares Vote"
- A "Percentage Vote" is a vote in which each Director receives one equal vote
- A simple majority is needed to pass
- Immediately after the "Percentage Vote" any two Directors could ask for a "Voting Shares Vote"
- A "Voting Shares
   Vote" means
   each Director's
   vote is weighted
   based on energy
   consumption

Voting Process (continued)

# If each agency joins, then the voting shares would be weighted as follows:

Oakland	24.88%	Livermore	6.17%
Fremont	16.18%	Union City	4.30%
Hayward	10.11%	Dublin	3.68%
Berkeley	8.48%	Newark	3.20%
Pleasanton	6.55%	Emeryville	2.52%
San Leandro	6.40%	Albany	0.71%
Unincorporated	6.37%	Piedmont	0.41%

# Policy Consideration #4 Supermajority Votes

Draft JPA provides that it may be amended by only 2/3 vote. Also, any amendments to voting provisions require a 3/4 vote.

These supermajority provisions tend to preclude amendments not supported by a significant portion of agencies

**Early Termination Costs** 

Prior to launch, Authority will provide agencies with a report comparing the estimated greenhouse gas emissions rate, amount of renewable energy, and total electrical rates. Agencies can withdraw within 30 days if:

Authority cannot provide total electrical rates that are equal to or lower than PG&E

Authority cannot provide electricity that has lower greenhouse gas emissions

Authority uses less renewable energy than PG&E

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# Policy Consideration #6 Withdrawal Costs After Launch

If a City wants to leave at some point after start-up, then the City "shall" be responsible for:

- Any "damages"
  arising from their
  membership
- Specific "losses" incurred by the Authority as a result of the withdrawal, including losses from resale of contracted power

Current language could impose significant liability on cities if a city withdraws

County cannot provide estimate of any withdrawal costs

City Attorneys are working with County Counsel to limit withdrawal liability

Join After Launch

If agency joins after launch, then:

Authority could charge a "membership fee"

Admission would be voted upon

Authority
could impose
"any
condition"

Benefit to join early since initial members do not pay costs

Could be burdensome to join after launch

## **Questions?**





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