



# Community Choice Energy in Contra Costa County

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

### CCE — What is it?

Community Choice Energy (CCE) allows local governments to pool the electricity demands of their communities, in order to purchase power with higher renewable content, lower greenhouse gas emissions and reinvest in local energy infrastructure. Currently, there are five cities in the County that have joined Marin’s CCE program, and the County and several other cities are investigating their options.

### How does it work?

If the County and additional cities move forward with CCE, the program will purchase electricity on your behalf—from sources that are cleaner, greener and more local. This will offer residents and businesses of Contra Costa additional energy choices.

CCE doesn’t interrupt your electricity service in any way. PG&E would continue to deliver the electricity from the grid to your home or business, maintain the power lines, read your meter, and send you a single, consolidated bill. The only change would be an opportunity to choose between different clean energy options—at rates that are competitive with PG&E’s rates. If your home or business is in a CCE service area, you would be automatically enrolled in the program, with an option to opt out and return to PG&E “bundled service” at any time.

### Do other communities offer CCE?

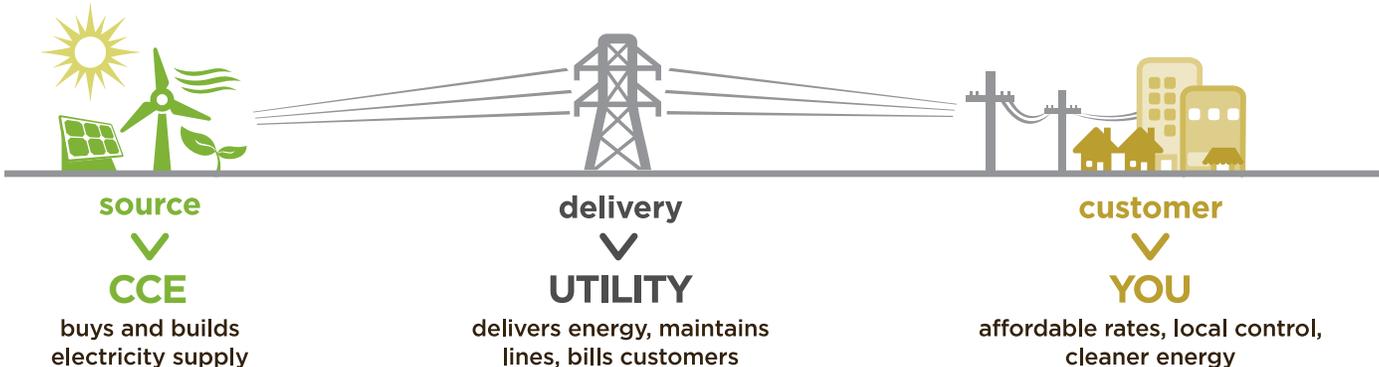
Yes, Marin Clean Energy (MCE Clean Energy) was the first program to launch in 2010 and it has now expanded to include Napa County, the city of Benicia and the Contra Costa cities of Richmond, El Cerrito, San Pablo and soon, Lafayette and Walnut Creek. Sonoma County launched its program in 2014 and the City of San Francisco and San Mateo County will begin service this year. Many other cities and counties around the State of California, including programs in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, are in various stages of implementation.



**For more information on local CCE programs, check out these websites:**

- [www.mcecleanenergy.org](http://www.mcecleanenergy.org)
- [www.sonomacleanpower.org](http://www.sonomacleanpower.org)
- [www.cleanpowersf.org](http://www.cleanpowersf.org)
- [www.peninsulacleanenergy.com](http://www.peninsulacleanenergy.com)
- [www.svcleanenergy.org](http://www.svcleanenergy.org)

## How Community Choice Energy Works





## What's happening in Contra Costa County?

Contra Costa County is currently investigating its program options, which include:

- Joining MCE Clean Energy (as some cities already have)
- Forming a new program for the County and remaining cities
- Or joining up with the CCE effort underway in Alameda County.

The County and its 14 cities not currently served by MCE Clean Energy are partnering on a technical study to assess program feasibility and compare these program options. The study is expected to be complete by December 2016 with local city and county decisions in the early part of 2017. If the program is approved, customers could begin receiving service by the end of 2017.

*Please sign up for our listserv to receive periodic updates and information on public workshops this Fall.*



### For More Information

*Please sign up for our email listserv to receive periodic meeting notices and updates.*

Please go to [www.cccounty.us/cce](http://www.cccounty.us/cce) and click on the link to receive CCE email updates.

or contact Jason Crapo at [Jason.Crapo@dcd.cccounty.us](mailto:Jason.Crapo@dcd.cccounty.us).

## What are the potential benefits of CCE?



### Customer Choice

CCEs introduce competition to the electricity marketplace. They provide ratepayers with a choice about who purchases their electricity, and about the level of renewables they wish to purchase.



### Emissions Reduction

If Contra Costa County joins an existing CCE or forms its own, one of the goals will be to provide electricity with higher percentages of renewables than is currently available, at competitive prices.



### Local Control

CCEs are municipal organizations managed by representatives of the communities they serve, and accountable to their residential and commercial ratepayers.