

Central Coast Power

What is Central Coast Power?

Central Coast Power is a consortium of local governments that has formed to explore the feasibility of a Community Choice Energy (CCE) program that could serve San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties. Assembly Bill 117 established CCE in 2002 to enable local governments to leverage the purchasing power of their residents, businesses, and governmental entities to purchase or generate power for their communities. CCE puts energy purchasing and pricing options into the hands of local decision-makers and allows the community to determine what type of energy mix and programs serve its needs.

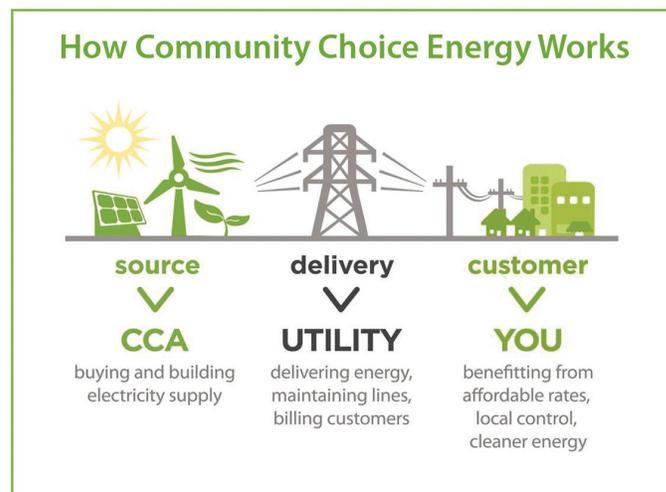


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What are the Benefits?



CHOICE

CCE introduces competition into the marketplace and provides customers with a choice about the energy sources they wish to support.



COMMUNITY

CCE is typically run by a public agency, accountable to the community, not shareholders. Surplus funds may be reinvested locally in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and jobs.



SUSTAINABILITY

CCE may help communities achieve their climate action goals by lowering energy-related greenhouse gas emissions through cleaner, renewable energy choices.



ECONOMICS

CCE may provide customers renewable energy options at rates competitive with Pacific Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Central Coast Power?

Central Coast Power is a consortium of 27 local governments in the tri-county region that has formed to explore the feasibility of a Community Choice Energy (CCE) program. An Advisory Working Group oversees the CCE effort, including the development of a feasibility study to determine whether CCE is a viable option for the region.

What is Community Choice Energy (CCE)?

Assembly Bill 117 established Community Choice Energy, also known as Community Choice Aggregation, in 2002 to enable local governments to leverage the purchasing power of their residents, businesses, and governmental entities to purchase or generate power for their communities. CCE puts energy purchasing and pricing options into the hands of local decision-makers and allows the community to determine what type of energy mix and programs serve its needs.

Does CCE replace my current electricity provider?

No. If CCE is offered, local residents and businesses would continue to receive electricity and related services from their current electricity provider, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) or Southern California Edison (SCE). The CCE would purchase the actual electricity flowing to your home or business and set the rates for that portion of your electricity bill, but all other services (and associated charges) would remain with your current utility.

How would a CCE program be funded?

During the evaluation and start-up phase, funding is typically provided by participating counties and cities. After operation begins, the CCE is self-funded through revenues, and the start-up investment provided by the participating jurisdictions can be paid back. A CCE program is completely revenue-funded, requiring zero tax dollars from customers or participating communities.

How are customers impacted by CCE?

Most customers will not notice any change other than the current utility's electric generation charge being replaced by a CCE electricity supply charge on their utility bill. Customers will still receive a single consolidated bill from the existing utility and will continue to contact PG&E or SCE for any customer service needs. The real difference is that the electricity procured on the customer's behalf is typically cleaner and may be cheaper than what is currently offered by PG&E and SCE. Customers may also have access to new energy efficiency and other clean energy programs to help make their home or business more efficient and comfortable.

Would customers have to participate in CCE if they are in the CCE program's service area?

No. Residents and businesses are not required to participate in a community's CCE program and may opt out.