

# THE POWER OF COMMUNITY CHOICE

## IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), authorized in California under AB 117 (2002) and SB 790 (2011), allows local governments including counties and cities to purchase electricity in the wholesale power market and sell it to their residents and businesses at competitive rates as an alternative to electricity purchased by Southern California Edison (SCE). SCE would continue to deliver electricity, maintain infrastructure, and bill consumers.

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The public accountability and non-profit status of CCAs positions them to act in the best interests of their communities. In addition to providing customers with competitive retail rates for electric service, CCAs can offer higher levels of renewable energy sources, above the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), that support local climate action and economic goals.

CCAs can elect to build out renewable and distributed energy resources within their jurisdictions. They can offer locally tailored and branded energy programs to support using energy more efficiently, ownership of rooftop solar, and other clean energy technologies and strategies.

By investing at the local level, CCAs can reduce the flow of capital leaving their area. Local renewable and energy efficiency projects spur the creation of clean energy jobs in installation and maintenance. Financing renewable projects is less costly because CCAs can issue tax-exempt revenue bonds and have no shareholders to pay. CCA revenue can also be used to offer more competitive rates to customers and better serve social equity objectives for low-income households.

### CCA START UP IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

In March 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to fund a study to assess the feasibility of establishing a CCA program to provide greater customer choice, competitive energy pricing, and obtain power from cleaner, renewable sources.

The CCA will be governed by a Joint Powers Authority (JPA). This allows for multiple cities to participate and take leadership roles. The JPA structure shields member cities from liability and debts taken on by the CCA. Individual cities will pass a resolution to join the JPA to receive CCA rates and programs. Individual cities or groups of cities may also form separate CCAs under the umbrella JPA structure for the purpose of administering local programs.



### BENEFITS FOR COMMUNITIES

- Establish local control over energy mix – meet or exceed Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)
- Create quality jobs and local, renewable generation assets
- Meet or exceed Climate Action Plan goals
- Invest in local energy programs – integrated demand side management
- Provide rate stability – lower costs for homeowners and businesses
- Consumer choice – competition for lower rates and options for cleaner energy

---

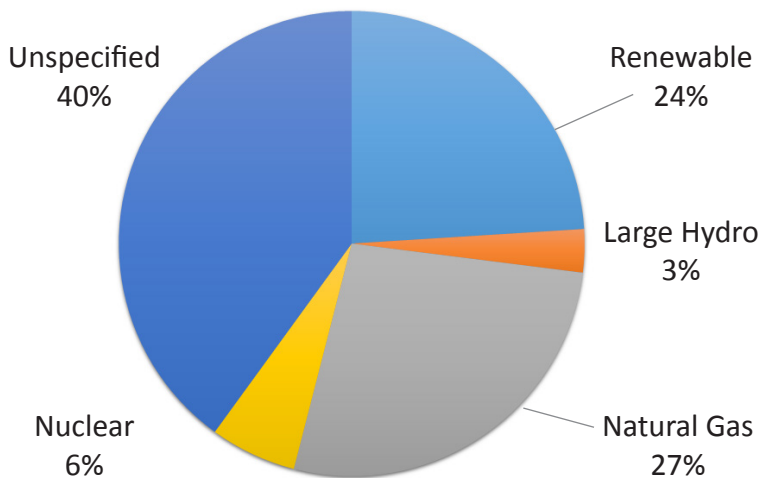
---

## ADVANTAGES TO COMMUNITIES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A county-wide CCA brings benefits of scale that include lower administrative costs, back-office support for all participating communities, efficient and locally specific program design, increased purchasing power, and more resources to undertake clean energy projects.

Many CCA customers will notice little practical change beyond a line item on their utility bill where the CCA's electric generation charge replaces that of Southern California Edison (SCE). SCE will continue to manage the distribution grid, and provide billing, maintenance, and outage response services for CCA customers, as well as its own customers. Participants are automatically enrolled in the CCA, but may opt-out at any time.

The real value of the CCA will be reflected in an electricity mix with fewer greenhouse gas emissions than what is offered by SCE, and energy efficiency programs that can be locally specific.



*SCE's Electricity Resource Mix as of 2014: The Los Angeles County CCA will set higher goals for clean energy resources.*

Customers will have an option to purchase cleaner energy and will have access to energy efficiency programs to help make their homes and businesses more comfortable and cost-effective. Customers may notice more clean energy projects in their neighborhoods and can draw satisfaction from knowing that they are helping to bring about this transformation. Existing CCAs in California are adding substantial renewable energy resources, sited within their jurisdictions, and executing power purchase agreements with local, utility scale solar developers.



### JOIN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CCA

City representatives and interested stakeholders in Los Angeles County are strongly encouraged to become involved in the CCA planning process by attending Task Force meetings.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information and a schedule of future meetings, contact us at:

[cca@isd.lacounty.gov](mailto:cca@isd.lacounty.gov)

<http://green.lacounty.gov>

Select the CCA tab to learn more.