



Loma Prieta Chapter serving San Mateo, Santa Clara & San Benito Counties

February 17, 2015

Re: County Feasibility Study on Community Choice Aggregation

Dear Mayor Shanahan and Members of Woodside Town Council,

The Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter urges the Town of Woodside to join the County in its effort to form a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA).

Last year, our chapter completed a survey of the progress made by all our towns and cities on the peninsula, towards their goals in Climate Action Plans, designed to roll back the city's carbon footprint. The most striking finding was that, while every action taken was a positive step toward greenhouse gas reduction targets, moving to a CCA was by far the most effective means towards realistically achieving these goals,

Under a CCA, electricity needs would be aggregated to create the customer base of the CCA. Currently the electricity market is completely controlled by PG&E. If San Mateo County formed a CCA it would be as a non-profit which would take over the buying and selling of electricity from PG&E. Transmission and distribution would still belong to PG&E.

There are three clear reasons to form a CCA:

- 1- To spur the use of **clean energy to reduce** carbon in the environment and avoid catastrophic climate change.
- 2- **Provide choice** with competitive rates to ratepayers.
- 3- Catalyze innovation at the local level, incenting jobs and revenue, through **buyback programs**.

With a CCA you can develop programs responsive to local environment and economic goals for greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions as communities and customers get choice. A CCA is entirely revenue supported through the rate payer base; there are no additional tax payer moneys involved.

Marin was the first CCA formed in California. They were cash positive after three months with a surplus of 7% of total revenue to reinvest in local technology for storage, efficiency, and electric vehicle charging. Marin is currently 20% less greenhouse gas intensive than PG&E.

Lastly, it is important to note that authorizing the sharing of load data with the County for the technical study does not obligate Woodside to join the eventual CCA.

We hope that Woodside will elect to join in the feasibility study with the County of San Mateo.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gita Dev", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gita Dev, Woodside resident
Climate Action Leadership Team
Sierra Club Loma Prieta

Cc Gladwyn d'Souza and Sue Chow, Co-Chairs, Climate Action Leadership Team, SCLP
Michael Ferreira, Conservation Chair, SCLP
John Cordes, Executive Director, SCLP