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## Richmond Electric Customers Will Have a Choice of Buying Greener Electric Power

Richmond, Calif., joins the Marin Energy Authority, and becomes the first California city outside of Marin County to participate in Community Choice Aggregation

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA – Richmond City Council voted to become the first California city outside of Marin County to participate in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). At the June 19, 2012, City Council meeting, Richmond City Council elected to join the Marin Energy Authority (MEA) and participate in the Marin Clean Energy CCA program, which will provide customers with a choice to purchase electricity with higher renewable energy content. This innovative policy decision demonstrates Richmond's leadership and commitment to greening the local economy and achieving the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

CCA is a system that allows local governments to procure electric energy for customers within their jurisdiction and provides customers with a public energy option. Richmond electric customers will soon have the choice of purchasing electric power from Marin Clean Energy or Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). Marin Clean Energy procures electricity that is 50 percent renewable energy and allows customers to opt-in to a "Deep Green" product that is 100 percent renewable energy. Richmond will have participation rights in the Marin Energy Authority equal to any city in Marin County.

"We are excited to have Richmond join in our efforts for greenhouse gas reductions and a cleaner energy supply," said Damon Connolly, the Chair of the MEA Board and San Rafael City Council Member. "Linking our communities together through shared values and vision make this a promising partnership."

Richmond City Councilmember Tom Butt added, "Richmond wants to partner with MEA to provide customers with a choice of a greener energy supply and to develop energy efficiency programs that bring quality jobs to Richmond residents and improve the health and comfort of Richmond homes."

As early as September 2012, MCE could offer early enrollment to Richmond customers wishing to receive 100 percent renewable power through the Deep Green Program. The full program is expected to become available to customers in Spring 2013, providing customers with a choice of 50 or 100 percent renewable energy. In the interim, Richmond and the Marin Energy Authority will also engage businesses and residents with opportunities to enroll in energy efficiency programs and develop local renewable energy projects to sell power back to the Marin Energy Authority through the Marin Clean Energy Feed-In Tariff program.

"Developing effective local energy programs is part of our vision for a sustainable and forward-looking city. Marin Clean Energy will provide environmental and economic benefits to businesses and residents in Richmond," said Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin.

Richmond is advancing renewable energy policies such as CCA to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions and to attract more green technology businesses to locate in the city. Richmond was recently selected as the preferred site for the <a href="Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory">Laboratory</a> (LBNL) Second Campus and is currently developing a green business cluster along the South Shoreline around the future LBNL campus. Richmond City Council recently adopted a <a href="General Plan Update 2030">General Plan Update 2030</a> that includes an innovative Energy and Climate and Health and Wellness Elements.

For additional information regarding Richmond's decision to join the Marin Energy Authority, please visit <a href="https://www.richmondenvironment.org">www.richmondenvironment.org</a> and <a href="https://www.marincleanenergy.org">www.marincleanenergy.org</a>.