



# SIERRA CLUB

*Santa Barbara Group*

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July 13, 2018

Santa Barbara County Supervisors  
County Administration Building Board Hearing Room, 4th Floor  
105 East Anapamu St.  
Santa Barbara, CA  
Via email to: [sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

RE: Agenda Item #2: Community Choice Energy (CCE) New Feasibility Study

*Chair*

Katie Davis

*Vice-Chair*

Katie Mullin

*Secretary*

Luz Reyes-Martin

*Treasurer*

Jim Taylor

*Executive Committee*

Alex Pujo

*Executive Committee*

Martha Sadler

*Executive Committee*

Robert Bernstein

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

The Santa Barbara Sierra Club supports Option 1: "Form a joint powers authority (JPA) to create and administer a new CCE program with interested cities"

Pacific Energy Advisers used realistic assumptions in their modeling based on actual power and financing costs in the many existing programs. Their projections are relied upon by financing institutions. As such, this study represents a real-world and practical approach that should give you the confidence to move forward as it would still be workable even if costs are higher than anticipated.

The cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta and Carpinteria are very interested in participating in the formation of a CCE. Santa Barbara and Goleta have passed resolutions setting a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2030, and the Mayor of Carpinteria has endorsed this goal for his city as well. Community choice will help cities realize these renewable energy goals. Since a countywide effort is the most feasible, the county needs authorize a JPA so that the cities may join.

As the largest north county city, Santa Maria should be given an opportunity to learn more about the benefits of joining the JPA, and additional PG&E municipalities north of us may want to join in the future as well, making the JPA ever stronger. Instead of profits going to SCE or PG&E, CCE revenues can be invested locally, resulting in more clean energy jobs, more energy choice and competition. Programs could save rate payer money through energy efficiency and low-income electricity support and generate business opportunities through programs like feed-in tariffs for solar or wind. There are 8,763 jobs in renewable energy and efficiency in Santa Barbara County. CCE further builds this sector. <sup>1</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Davis  
Chair, Sierra Club, Santa Barbara Group

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<sup>1</sup> ADVANCED ENERGY JOBS IN CALIFORNIA (<https://info.aee.net/hubfs/PDF/california-jobs-report-2016.pdf>)