

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 413

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July 16, 2018

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara CA, 93101

Re: Community Choice Energy (CCE) New Feasibility Study Results

Dear Chairman Williams and Members of the Board,

I write this letter in support of the most recent Community Choice Energy Feasibility Study results. The IBEW encourages the Board to move forward with the formation of a joint powers authority (JPA) to create and administer a new CCE program with interested cities.

The IBEW has been working diligently with elected officials and environmental organizations who have had the vision and the will to move forward with clean energy public policy throughout California. In 2015, Senate Bill 350 was signed into law, establishing statewide standards for the development of new clean energy resources, cleaner air, and GHG reductions. As a result, thousands of megawatts of utility-scale renewable power generation have been built by IBEW members throughout the State, including the recently completed 40MW Solar Array project in Cuyama.

We recognize the formation of a new JPA as the first step in a process to establish local control of energy choices. However, we caution the Board and the subsequent JPA, against the procurement of out-of-state power and the use of unbundled RECs within their local energy portfolio to the greatest extent possible. We continue to encourage the adoption of policies to develop and purchase power from locally generated resources, to ensure the mutual benefits of California environmental and labor standards have been adequately addressed.

Sincerely,

Chuck Huddleston
IBEW Local 413, Business Manager and Financial Secretary