

**To: Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins and
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon**

The organizations below request your action to end the CPUC's attack on our communities and on Community Choice.

This past October, CPUC commissioners unanimously adopted Decision 18-10-016. This Decision dramatically increases an arbitrary, unpredictable, and ongoing “exit” fee—the PCIA—on customers of California's 19 Community Choice agencies.

This action is just the latest and most egregious example of the CPUC's consistent pattern of bias* against Community Choice in favor of the monopoly utilities. It is contrary to state law (AB 117). It fails to hold utilities accountable for managing costs; it lacks transparency; and it accounts for utility-owned-generation costs in a way that may be wholly illegal.

The PCIA methodology imposed via the CPUC Decision threatens the viability of Community Choice programs. It has already had the following negative impacts:

- **Aborted and delayed programs** – A new Community Choice program in San Luis Obispo/Morro Bay aborted its launch. Desert Community Energy (San Bernardino) delayed its launch.
- **Increased electricity rates** – Both CleanPowerSF and Valley Clean Energy (Davis) have been forced to increase customer rates, undermining their ability to compete with PGE.
- **Curtailed local investment** – East Bay Community Energy expects to cut \$13 million from its 2019 budget, including for local renewable energy development. Monterey Bay Community Power has pulled its distributed energy resource (DER) procurement entirely.

The CPUC has a duty under AB 117 to ensure that avoidable, unfair, anti-competitive costs are not shifted from the investor-owned monopoly utilities to Community Choice customers. Yet such a shift is precisely what Decision 18-10-016 did.

The dramatic increase in PCIA fees threatens the viability of Community Choice programs.** The CPUC's October decision is also unfair to bundled rate payers, as utility ratepayers end up paying higher rates when the utilities are shielded by the PCIA from competition with more attractive Community Choice programs.

Because the CPUC Decision is particularly damaging to Community Choice programs, it thereby obstructs our fastest means of achieving the state's climate targets. In this way, it does a major disservice to the public interest.

On behalf of our members, we, the undersigned organizations ask you to:

- Demand the CPUC suspend Decision 18-10-016, pending resolution of its procedural and legal deficiencies;
- Call on Governor Newsom to appoint new CPUC commissioners and top staffers who support Community Choice and prioritize community interests.

*<http://cacommunityenergy.org/updated-cpuc-bias-against-community-choice-january-2019/>

**<http://cacommunityenergy.org/background-rollback-the-cpuc-attack-on-community-choice-february-2019/>

California Alliance for Community Energy
Al Weinrub- Coordinator

Clean Coalition
Rosana Francescato- Communications Director

Consumer Watchdog
Adam Scow- Senior Advocate

Food & Water Watch
Jim Walsh- Renewable Energy Policy Analyst

Greenpower
Benjamin Eichert- Director

Local Clean Energy Alliance
Al Weinrub- Coordinator

Pacific Environment
Alex Levinson- Executive Director

World Business Academy
Robert Perry- Director of Energy Research

Alameda Interfaith Climate Action Network
Frances Aubrey- Co- convener

East Bay Clean Power Alliance
Jessica Tovar- Organizer

Green Party of Santa Clara County
Nassim Nouri- Council Member

Livermore Indivisible
Van Rainey- Environmental Committee Lead

San Jose Community Energy Advocates
Ruth Merino- Chair

Oakland Climate Action Coalition
Colin Miller- Coordinator

Sustainable Marin
Wendi Kallins- President

House Kombucha
Aaron Lehmer-Chang- Co-owner

Organizing for Action-Contra Costa
Renee Zeimer-Chapter Lead

Californians for Energy Choice
Eric Brooks-Campaign Coordinator

Climate Action Campaign
Matthew Vasilakis- Climate Justice Advocate

Emerald Cities Collaborative
Veronica Soto- Program Director

Green Party of California
Maxine Daniel- Co-Coordinator

Indivisible California Green Team
Jennifer Tanner- Steering Committee

Numi Organic Tea
Jane French- Director of Sustainability

Protect Our Communities Foundation
Bill Powers- Boardmember

350 Conejo/San Fernando Valley
Alan Weiner- Chapter Co-chair

Berkeley Climate Action Network
Minna Toloui- Program Manager

Emerald Cities Oakland
Tara Marchant- Director

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Bradley Angel- Executive Director

Local Power, Inc.
Charles Schultz- Research Director

Sunflower Alliance
Shoshana Wechsler- Coordinator

Physicians for Social Responsibility, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Robert Gould- Executive Director

Bay Area Green Tours
Marissa LaMagna-Founding Executive Director

Kehilia Community Synagogue
Beth Weinberger- Greening Committee Rep.

Planting Justice
Gavin Raders- Executive Director

Community Environmental Council
Michael Chiacos- Director of Climate Programs

**Long Beach Community Choice
Energy Working Group**
Clay Sandidge- Chairman

North County Climate Change Alliance
Marian Sedio- Boardmember

Ventura County Garden Club
Barbara Rigney-Hill- Member

SoCal 350 Climate Action
Jack Eidt- Co-Founder

Carlsbad Sustainability Coalition
Phil Rogul- Chair

Public Bank of the East Bay
Margie Lewis- Community Representative

California Progressive Alliance
Gayle McLaughlin- Chair

Sustaenable
Edward Howard- Principal

Long Beach 350
Alice Stevens- Organizer and Co-founder

SanDiego350
Joyce Lane- Policy Chair

Preserve Wild Santee
Van Collinsworh- Director

The Ecology Center
Minna Tolou- Education Program Manager

Energetic Management Associates
Erika Morgan-Founder/Principal Consultant

Sustainable Rossmor
Marcia McLean- President





San José Community Energy Advocates

