

TOWN OF WOODSIDE

Report to Town Council

Agenda Item 5

From: Kevin Bryant, Town Manager

February 24, 2015

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION FOR SAN MATEO COUNTY

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Town Council adopt the attached resolution, which authorizes the Town Manager to provide the appropriate documents to allow San Mateo County and/or its technical consultants to request energy usage/load data from Pacific Gas and Electric Company so that it may be analyzed as part of a countywide Community Choice Aggregation feasibility study.

BACKGROUND

At their December 9, 2014 meeting, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors directed County staff to begin exploring the possibility of establishing a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program for unincorporated San Mateo County and interested cities. California Assembly Bill 117, passed in 2002, allows California cities and counties to pool the electric load of their residents, businesses and public facilities in order to purchase and develop clean electricity. There are currently two CCAs operating in Northern California, Marin Clean Energy and Sonoma Clean Power. The City of Lancaster, in Los Angeles County, is also starting a CCA. There are several other jurisdictions throughout the State investigating CCAs.

DISCUSSION

The first step in investigating a CCA program in San Mateo County is the preparation of a technical study that will assess: the current electrical load; the number of potential customers; projected economic impacts; and various clean energy options and greenhouse gas reduction scenarios. The technical study will also be helpful in determining whether or not the CCA can provide electricity rates that are competitive with those offered by PG&E. The technical study requires, among other things, electrical load data from PG&E for all cities and towns within the County who may be interested in joining a CCA program.

The San Mateo County Office of Sustainability has requested that all 20 cities and towns within the County authorize the release of their load data to the County for the purpose of conducting a county-wide technical study. If the Town Council adopts the draft resolution, the Office of Sustainability will include the Town in its load data request to PG&E.

As of the drafting of this report, 11 of the 20 cities in the County have authorized the release of load data to the County. An additional five jurisdictions have the release of load data scheduled for Council consideration.

It is important to note that participation at this stage of the CCA exploration process would not bind the Town to participate during later stages.

CONCLUSION

The attached resolution will authorize the Town Manager to provide the appropriate documents to allow San Mateo County and/or its technical consultants to request energy usage/load data from Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

Attachments

1. Resolution
2. Community Choice Aggregation Presentation to Council of Cities, January 30, 2015
3. Correspondence from Gita Dev, February 17, 2015