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MCE CLIMATE ACTION UPDATE

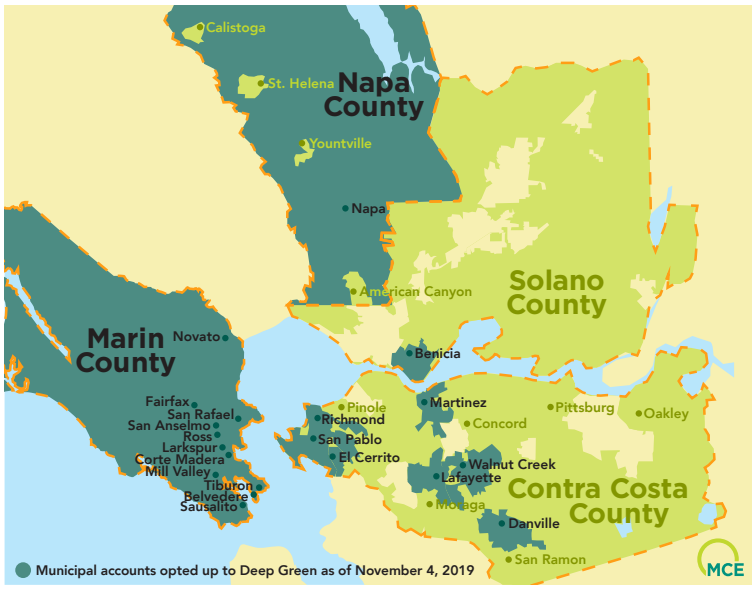
Fall 2019: County–by–County Highlights

This report provides an update on climate action advancements across four Bay Area counties — Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, and Solano — served by MCE, California's first Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program.

Over its nearly 10 years of operation, MCE has helped customers fight back against climate change by offering more renewable energy service options, and investing in local energy projects, and in innovative energy efficiency, solar, and electric vehicle (EV) programs. This fall 2019 update finds MCE's member counties accelerating adoption of these programs — with a record number of local governments switching to MCE's 100% renewable energy service, and steady growth in ratepayers participating in MCE's rooftop solar and EV programs.

22 Local Governments Commit To 100% Renewable Energy

22 of the 34 cities and counties across MCE's service area (see map) have taken the lead on local climate action by upgrading their municipal electric accounts to Deep Green, MCE's 100% renewable energy service option. Carbon–free electricity is now powering these communities' public buildings, streetlights, and civic services — 100% of it from California solar and wind energy sources.



MCE Climate Action Progress (as of October 2019)

MCE electricity accounts	**~474,000**
Ratepayer dollars saved since 2018 (compared to PG&E)	**$50.2** million
GHG emission reduced	**340,000** metric tons (equivalent to taking over 72,000 cars off the road for one year*)
Deep Green 100% renewable accounts	**22** municipalities; over **10,400** ratepayers
Megawatts (MW) of MCE local energy projects	**~25** MW capacity – 12 projects built (enough energy to power over 12,000 homes annually**)

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CLIMATE ACTION PROGRESS IN
Contra Costa County

66% of MCE's customers are located in Contra Costa County. MCE serves 13 jurisdictions within Contra Costa and later this year MCE's Board will consider service to **Pleasant Hill** beginning in 2021.

PARTICIPATION RATES: Participation rates are some of the highest in MCE's service area, with an average 89% of customers opting to remain with MCE for generation services. Nearly two–thirds of Contra Costa member communities have participation rates of 90% or higher.

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS: Since joining MCE, Contra Costa has reduced over 106,000 Metric Tons (MT) of CO_2 — equivalent to taking over 22,500 cars off the road for one year.*

FAST FACTS

2 out of 3 MCE customers live in Contra Costa County.

$1.43 million was offered this year to Contra Costa customers with rooftop solar.

100% RENEWABLE EFFORTS: The Cities of **Lafayette** and **El Cerrito** led campaigns encouraging residents to opt up to 100% renewable energy, resulting in the highest Deep Green participation rates in the County:

- In celebration of the City of Lafayette's 50th anniversary, local nonprofit Sustainable Lafayette spearheaded a successful community–wide campaign to encourage residents and businesses to opt up to Deep Green, increasing community–wide participation to nearly 5%.
- El Cerrito's Environmental Quality Committee exceeded their goal of opting up 100 electricity account holders to Deep Green to commemorate the City's Centennial Celebration. El Cerrito now has the highest Deep Green participation in the County at over 7%.

ROOFTOP SOLAR: The sunny East Bay climate has also boosted participation in MCE's Net Energy Metering (NEM) program for solar PV consumers, which offered cash back to almost 24,000 accounts that have invested in rooftop solar. MCE offered $1.43 million to ~3,200 rooftop solar customers who produced more electricity than they used themselves this year alone.

EV CHARGING STATIONS: Contra Costa leads the way in taking advantage of the MCEv Program's charging station rebates, with nearly 70 new ports installed to date with funds and support from MCE. Overall, Contra Costa has 151 EV charging stations compared to 255 gas stations.

NEW LOCAL RENEWABLE PROJECTS SPOTLIGHT

Three of MCE's local renewable projects are sited in Contra Costa County, with a collective capacity of over 13 MW annually.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Built on 60 acres of a remediated brownfield site in **Richmond**, CA, award–winning MCE Solar One is the Bay Area's largest public–private partnership at 10.5 MW, capable of powering 3,900 homes annually. The project supported over 340 local jobs, maximized local economic benefits by requiring 50% local resident workforce, engaged Richmond–based contractors and suppliers, and worked with local job training program RichmondBUILD to train and hire its skilled, local graduates. mceCleanEnergy.org/local-projects/#SolarOne

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CLIMATE ACTION PROGRESS IN
Marin County

MCE was founded in Marin County, where MCE currently serves 94,000 customers.

PARTICIPATION RATES: Nearly 80% of customers in Marin have opted to stay with MCE for generation services.

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS: Since joining MCE, Marin has reduced over 178,800 Metric Tons (MT) of CO_2 — equivalent to taking nearly 38,000 cars off the road for one year.*

100% RENEWABLE EFFORTS: Continuing to lead on climate issues, all 11 cities and towns in Marin and the county government have opted up to Deep Green, and 4.5% of Marin's residential and business accounts have done the same. Many environmental groups and climate champions played key roles in encouraging their communities to opt up, including the Environmental Forum of Marin, Resilient Neighborhoods, and Drawdown Marin. The Town of **Fairfax**, having launched the first Deep Green campaign, has the highest Deep Green participation rate in MCE's entire service area at over 8%.

FAST FACTS

All 11 cities and towns and the County of Marin have adopted MCE's Deep Green 100% renewable service.

Marin now has more EV charging stations than gas stations — many of them powered by clean energy from MCE.

ROOFTOP SOLAR: MCE offered over $673,000 to ~1,100 rooftop solar customers in Marin County in 2019 as compensation for excess generation.

EV CHARGING STATIONS: Marin is home to 60% more EV charging stations than gas stations, with 81 charging stations compared to 53 gas stations. MCE has supported and funded the installation of nearly 60 new EV charging ports, including 10 public charging ports at MCE's office in **San Rafael**. Built by a local workforce, the 80kW MCE Solar Charge solar system provides 100% renewably–powered EV charging in two ways: When the sun is shining, the charging stations will draw energy from the solar array and offset usage in MCE's adjacent office building. Any other time, MCE's Deep Green 100% renewable energy service is used to support electricity needs with a mix of 50% California wind and 50% California solar. MCE Solar Charge was built by Marin–based American Solar Corporation, with EV stations funded in part by Transportation Authority of Marin and Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

NEW LOCAL RENEWABLE PROJECTS SPOTLIGHT

Eight local renewable projects have been built in Marin, with a collective capacity of over 9 MW annually.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: The 3.9 MW Redwood Landfill project closes the loop on trash by turning a landfill gas, which was previously flared, into enough electricity to power approximately 5,000 homes per year. The state–of–the–art plant uses methane gas produced at the Redwood Landfill to power two reciprocating engines that generate electricity 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The plant reflects Waste Management's commitment to finding environmentally sustainable solutions to its operations, and MCE's goal to source 100% renewable energy as close to customers as possible. mceCleanEnergy.org/local-projects/#RWL

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CLIMATE ACTION PROGRESS IN
Napa County

MCE currently serves 55,000 customers in Napa County, which first joined MCE in 2015.

PARTICIPATION RATES: With the highest participation rate in MCE's service area, nearly 90% of electricity consumers in Napa use MCE's generation services.

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS: Since joining MCE, Napa County has reduced over 49,300 Metric Tons (MT) of CO_2 — equivalent to taking nearly 10,500 cars off the road for one year.*

100% RENEWABLE EFFORTS: The **City of Napa** and **County of Napa** have both opted up to Deep Green, encouraged in part by the efforts of local energy champions and environmental groups like Sustainable Napa County.

FAST FACTS

Almost 90% of Napa electricity customers receive MCE service.

Carbon emissions have been reduced by 49,300+ metric tons since Napa joined MCE.

ROOFTOP SOLAR: MCE offered over $438,000 to ~550 NEM solar customers in Napa County this year as compensation for excess generation.

EV CHARGING STATIONS: Napa County is investing in EV infrastructure with two new ports supported by MCEv and more to come. Overall, Napa also has nearly triple the amount of EV charging stations compared to gas stations, with 112 EV charging stations compared to 39 gas stations.

WILDFIRE REBUILDING PROGRAM: MCE, The Bay Area Air Quality Management District, BayREN, Napa County, and PG&E have joined efforts to help property owners in Napa County who lost homes in the October 2017 and 2018 wildfires. Advanced Energy Rebuild Napa provides incentives up to $17,500 to support homeowners in rebuilding energy efficient, carbon–free, sustainable homes.

NEW LOCAL RENEWABLE PROJECTS SPOTLIGHT

MCE completed its first local renewable energy project in Napa County this year.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: At 3 MW, **American Canyon** Solar Project's annual output is estimated to generate enough clean, locally–produced electricity to power approximately 1,000 homes per year, displacing conventional, greenhouse gas–emitting energy sources with renewable, carbon–free solar.
mceCleanEnergy.org/local-projects

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CLIMATE ACTION PROGRESS IN
Solano County

Benicia joined MCE in 2015, where MCE currently serves 10,000 customers. Service will begin in **unincorporated Solano County** starting in 2020, and MCE's Board will officially vote later this year to consider providing service to **Vallejo** in 2021.

PARTICIPATION RATES: Nearly 80% of electric accounts in **Benicia** participate in MCE generation service.

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS: Since joining MCE, Benicia has reduced over 7,800 Metric Tons (MT) of CO_2 — equivalent to taking nearly 1,600 cars off the road for one year.*

100% RENEWABLE EFFORTS: 100% of Benicia's municipal accounts opted up to Deep Green.

"MCE service and all of its local programs offer a great incentive for everyone in our region to be less reliant on energy sources that are contributing to climate change and the growing threat of wildfires."

– Elizabeth Patterson, Mayor of Benicia, the first city in Solano County to join MCE. Patterson currently serves on MCE's Board of Directors

ROOFTOP SOLAR: In 2019, MCE offered ~175 rooftop solar customers in Benicia over $265,000 as compensation for excess generation. *"MCE's solar program is a great incentive for everyone in our region to be less reliant on energy sources that are contributing to climate change and the growing threat of wildfires,"* said Elizabeth Patterson, Mayor of Benicia and MCE Board Member. *"Many of the recipients of the innovative cash–out program are local governments and schools that are using these funds to reinvest in making our communities more resilient."*

For additional County information, please visit: mceCleanEnergy.org/member-communities. For more information on local projects, please visit mceCleanEnergy.org/local-projects

BACKGROUND ON MCE

MCE's mission is to address climate change by reducing energy–related greenhouse gas emissions. As a not–for–profit, public agency, MCE is governed by elected officials who represent its 34 member communities. This model allows MCE to reinvest profits in the communities it serves, rather than paying shareholders. It is an agency priority to support diversity and equity through hiring practices, contracting, and agency initiatives. This extends to support for fair compensation, local renewable project development, union labor, training and apprenticeship programs, local businesses, California job creation, and initiatives in income–qualified and underserved communities.

* Based on the EPA's greenhouse gas equivalencies calculator epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator

** Based on calculations of electricity usage in MCE's service area, the capacity factor per power resource type, and the EPA's greenhouse gas equivalencies calculator epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator