

Community Energy Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San José Clean Energy Launches New City-wide Electricity Service

As a new electricity generation provider, San José Clean Energy will offer cleaner, cheaper electricity and choice to San José homes and businesses

San José, CA (February 1, 2019) – Starting February 2019, [San José Clean Energy \(SJCE\)](#) will be the city’s official electricity provider, bringing homes and businesses cleaner electricity at lower rates than PG&E. Per California law, SJCE will become the default energy generation provider for San José residents and businesses on their billing date in February.

Operated by the Community Energy Department, SJCE is the City’s Community Choice Energy program. Through Community Choice, local governments like the City of San José buy electricity from cleaner sources, while the investor-owned utility (PG&E, for San José) continues to distribute the electricity, maintain the powerlines, respond to power outages, and provide billing.

“By providing residents with cheaper and greener electricity options, San José Clean Energy represents the single most impactful tool that our city has for reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo. “With today’s successful launch, we are taking a big step towards meeting the aggressive emission reduction targets set in our Climate Smart San José plan and securing a sustainable future for our community.”

Customers will be enrolled in GreenSource, SJCE’s default power service. GreenSource includes 45% renewable energy from solar, wind and geothermal and 35% carbon-free hydropower, and is 80% carbon-free overall.

“Our cleaner energy this year is the same as taking 35,000 cars off the road or planting 2.7 million trees,” said Lori Mitchell, Community Energy Department Director. “And our 1% rate discount adds up to \$2 million in savings across our community each year. Together we’re having a great impact and helping preserve our planet for future generations.”

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To further reduce their carbon footprint, customers can upgrade to TotalGreen, SJCE's 100% renewable energy service. Selecting TotalGreen will cost the average home \$5-10 more per month over GreenSource service.

Customers can also opt out to remain entirely with PG&E.

Residents and businesses were notified of their enrollment via two postcards that were mailed in late December 2018 and mid-January 2019. They can also expect to receive two additional post-enrollment notices in late February and March 2019 after service begins.

In addition to trilingual advertising, SJCE staff continue to [attend neighborhood and community group meetings](#) and are hosting six information meetings:

- Tuesday, February 5, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Berryessa Branch Library
- Tuesday, February 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Edenvale Branch Library
- Thursday, February 21, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Bascom Community Center
- Saturday, February 23 (in Vietnamese), 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Vietnamese American Community Center
- Saturday, February 23 (in Spanish), 3:00-4:30 p.m. at the Mexican Heritage Plaza
- Wednesday, March 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at San José City Hall, Wing Room 120

The San José City Council voted unanimously to establish SJCE in May 2017. SJCE is governed by the City Council and has a Community Advisory Council.

About the City of San José

With more than one million residents, San José is one of the most diverse large cities in the United States and is Northern California's largest city and the 10th largest city in the nation. San José's transformation into a global innovation center has resulted in one of the largest concentrations of technology companies and expertise in the world. In 2011, the City adopted Envision San José 2040, a long-term growth plan that sets forth a vision and a comprehensive road map to guide the City's anticipated growth through the year 2040.

About the Community Energy Department

San José Clean Energy is the new nonprofit, locally controlled electricity generation service provider for residents and businesses in the City of San José. Beginning February 2019, it will provide over 300,000 residential and commercial electricity customers with clean, carbon-free power options at competitive prices, from sources like solar, wind and hydropower. San José Clean Energy is governed by the City Council and operated by the City of San José Community Energy Department. For more information, please visit www.SanJoseCleanEnergy.org.

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