SAN JOSE CLEAN ENERGY
A Program of the City of San José

News Release

For Immediate Release
June 21, 2023

Contact
Amanda Orozco, Marketing and Communications Manager
San José Clean Energy, City of San José
408-533-3764; amanda.orozco@sanjoseca.gov

San José Clean Energy Helps Improve Grid Reliability Ahead of Summer with Peak Rewards

New demand response program incentivizes businesses to save energy at key times to help lower the cost of electricity and avoid blackouts

SAN JOSÉ, Calif. **(June 21, 2023)** – San José Clean Energy (SJCE), San José's local electricity provider, announces new demand response program that will help California avoid blackouts this summer. Peak Rewards gives businesses the opportunity to be a part of the solution by rewarding them for saving energy during crucial hours now through October 2023.

"Blackouts are more than an inconvenience — lives depend on reliable access to electricity," said San José Mayor Matt Mahan. "San José Clean Energy's Peak Rewards program empowers local businesses to ease the strain on our electrical grid."

SJCE will contact enrolled businesses before an event and encourage them to save as much energy as possible. After the event, SJCE will apply credits to their electric bill depending on how much energy they saved. Assistance is available to help businesses maximize savings and unlike similar programs, there is no penalty for failing to reduce energy.

"We are grateful to our commercial partners for helping us balance the grid in times of high demand or when power prices are high," said Lori Mitchell, Director of the Community Energy Department, which operates SJCE. "It's an exciting era to work in clean energy as more people see the value that their actions can have."

In addition to helping prevent blackouts during heat waves, demand response programs like Peak Rewards can help lower the cost of electricity in wholesale markets. This can lead to more stable electricity rates for customers. Businesses that participate in Peak Rewards will also help improve air quality by alleviating the need to burn fossil fuels in the late afternoon when solar energy becomes less available on the grid.

Peak Rewards is the first step of a four-phase demand response approach that SJCE will implement over the next few years. A program for residential customers is expected in summer of 2024.

For more information on Peak Rewards, including how to sign up, visit SanJoseCleanEnergy.org/peak-rewards.

SJCE launched service to most residents and businesses in 2019 and is the largest single-jurisdiction Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) in the state. As one of 25 CCAs in California, SJCE is driving

innovation in the energy industry and is committed to finding solutions for grid reliability and a healthier planet for all.

# # #

About the City of San José
With nearly one million residents, San José is the largest city in the Bay Area and one of the nation's most diverse and creative. San José is a global innovation center in the heart of Silicon Valley, making up one of the world's greatest concentrations of technology talent and development.

About San José Clean Energy
San José Clean Energy (SJCE) is the local, not-for-profit electricity generation provider for homes and businesses in the City of San José. SJCE is operated by the City's Community Energy Department and governed by the City Council. SJCE provides 350,000 customer accounts with clean energy at competitive rates plus the additional benefits of customer choice, community programs, local control, transparency, and accountability. For more information, please visit www.SanJoseCleanEnergy.org. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn @SJCleanEnergy.

This news release is available at www.sanjoseca.gov