

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

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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-roller-roll-back-the-cpuc-attack-on-community-choice-february-2019/>

----For background information and documentation, visit [www.cacommunityenergy.org](http://www.cacommunityenergy.org).----

**California Alliance for Community Energy**  
Erica Etelson- Steering Committee

**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*

