

# CLIMATE HAWKS VOTE

Dear South Bay and Westside Cities:

Climate Hawks Vote is honored to endorse South Bay and Westside Cities' participation in South Bay Clean Power (SBCP).

I founded Climate Hawks Vote in 2014 to bring grassroots political power to the climate movement, and because I'm a Southern California resident the group has a strong Los Angeles presence. We focus on solutions and people who have the vision and drive to create the solutions - and that's South Bay Clean Power in a nutshell.

We are impressed by the local, grassroots coalition of diverse partners South Bay Clean Power has built over its three years of continuing education and growing expertise in not only Community Choice Aggregation, but also the goals and objectives to which their working group commits.

South Bay Clean Power has built their draft business plan around delivering on six goals and objectives that we at Climate Hawks Vote recommend and support:

1. The fastest path to 100% renewable power – with a goal of reaching that 10 years after its CCA launches;
2. No use of Category 3 unbundled Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to achieve its 100% renewables goal;
3. A Distributed Energy Resources model (DER, which refers to distributed renewable power generation, storage, energy efficiency, demand response and electric vehicle infrastructure) with a Los Angeles County-wide buildout of infrastructure to maximize its DER potential;
4. A focus on local economic investment, local power generation, local jobs, local career opportunities;
5. A partnership with labor – including project labor agreements, community benefit agreements, sustainable workforce agreements, job training, and apprenticeship program -- and that one is a critical bridge-builder in the clean energy arena where too many startups treat labor as an afterthought;

6. A program focus and emphasis on environmental justice in frontline communities where economic, workforce, and health needs are the greatest.

SB790 - California's Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) bill made environmental, economic, and social justice goals top priorities and Climate Hawks Vote believes that our state's CCA programs must stay true to that original intent.

If a "Community Choice" program is going to live up to its intent and name, "Community" must be actively engaged and involved through both local government and public oversight of the program's design, launch and operation. It also clearly calls for integrating the communities' local renewable and distributed energy resources from the very beginning of program planning, procurement and operations. Past experience with California CCAs has proven that unless a strong commitment to maximizing local distributed energy resources is planned from the outset, it doesn't effectively happen. South Bay Clean Power's plan makes those commitments and we believe such a commitment is necessary to maximize our use of renewable energy.

South Bay Clean Power's regional approach to governance allows participating cities to exercise legitimate local control with a manageable JPA board, that enables local elected representatives to determine their region's energy destiny. Under the suggested JPA of CPAs model the local JPA is given the power to determine their CCA's energy choices and renewable portfolio standard, its program design, program elements, electric rates and financial reserves, outreach and marketing. We appreciate that it also calls for strong citizen oversight and engagement in the program.

At the same time this governance model proposed by South Bay Clean Power provides an equivalent economy of scale to an L.A. Countywide program while giving the JPA of CCA members power procurement, data management, and back office services. We note that the same model is employed by the Southern California Public Power Authority and the Northern California Power Authority to great efficiency.

As we have watched the development of CCA programs and the exploration of CCA formation by Counties and Cities from San Diego to Humboldt County we have been impressed with the standard set by South Bay Clean Power as led by South Bay Los Angeles 350's Founding Organizer, Joe Galliani. The SBCP Working Group's three years of efforts and execution on public and local government education, on public outreach and engagement, and on coalition building across a diverse group of local stakeholders have been noted and praised statewide.

We believe SBCP also serves as a model in program design, distributed energy resources focus, governance, and most especially our shared environmental, economic, and social justice goals.

I have recommended Joe Galliani's systemic, thoughtful approach to other regions of the state considering community choice and I applaud him for his willingness to travel far and wide to

share the work South Bay Clean Power is doing and all the resources they have developed since 2014.

There are many ways to approach and design a Community Choice Aggregation program but having reviewed the options, Climate Hawks Vote strongly supports participation in South Bay Clean Power.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions. Sincerely,

RL Miller  
Cofounder, Climate Hawks Vote