



# REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

633 3rd Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

November, 2017

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## Dear Ferndale Community Member,

Redwood Coast Energy Authority launched a Community Choice Energy program in May of 2017, providing lower electricity rates for customers throughout Humboldt County. We are pleased to announce that **electricity consumers in the City of Ferndale will be automatically enrolled during January, 2018.**

This program is locally controlled, keeping revenues in Humboldt County. We're buying cleaner, more locally produced electricity and feeding it into the grid, in partnership with PG&E. You'll get the same reliability, with more renewable power—at a lower price.

### How it works

All of Ferndale's residential and commercial electricity ratepayers will be automatically transitioned to our basic service that costs slightly less than PG&E's current service. You'll have a choice to opt up to 100% renewable energy or opt out of the program with a simple phone call or click. There's no fee to make a change.

### It's simple

**Just one bill.** Redwood Coast Energy Authority will receive payment for power generation and PG&E for power delivery, but you will get just one combined bill every month from PG&E and make only one payment.

**Same reliable service.** You'll still call PG&E to start and stop gas and electric service, and report outages and emergencies. They will continue to maintain the poles and power lines, read your meter, and provide service.

**Lower rates.** Our rates will be a bit lower than PG&E's rates—with a renewable content that's a bit higher. Nothing else about your service will change. No new risks or hassles.

### The choice is yours

If you take no action, you'll be transitioned to **REpower**, our basic electric service, on your regular billing date. It's over 40% renewable (well above state requirements and more than PG&E's energy mix) and costs slightly less than PG&E power.

If you want to go all-in, it's easy to sign up for **REpower+** 100% renewable service. This option comes with a small price premium of \$0.01 per kWh, usually amounting to less than \$6.00 per month per residence.

If you'd rather continue with PG&E's standard bundled service, just call us at 1 (800) 931-7232 or visit **RedwoodEnergy.org** to opt out. Be sure you have your PG&E bill on hand so we can help you.

### Discount and alternative billing programs

If you're enrolled in any of PG&E's discount programs, you will continue to get your discounts with RCEA without interruption—there's no need to reapply for California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA), Medical Baseline Allowance and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). For Budget Billing customers (formerly Balanced Payment Plan), RCEA generation charges will not be included as part of the plan and will thus vary from month to month.

As a Community Choice Energy customer, you will enjoy lower electric rates, greater local control over our energy supply, and the same reliable energy service as always. We look forward to having you participate.

Sincerely,

**Matthew Marshall**

*Executive Director, Redwood Coast Energy Authority*



## Terms and Conditions

**RATES:** Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) electric generation rates are proposed to be stable and cost-competitive. Any changes to rates will be adopted at duly noticed public meetings of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority Board. Changes to PG&E or RCEA rates will impact cost comparisons between RCEA and PG&E. PG&E charges RCEA customers a monthly Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) and Franchise Fee Surcharge. These fees are always included in our rate information. (Call (800) 931-7232 to learn more.) These rates and cost comparisons may change over time. Financial assistance programs like CARE (California Alternate Rates for Energy), FERA (Family Electric Rate Assistance) and Medical Baseline Allowance remain the same with RCEA and will continue to be administered by PG&E. If you are enrolled in any of these programs with PG&E, you will continue to be enrolled if you choose RCEA.

**BILLING:** You will receive a single monthly bill from PG&E that includes RCEA's power generation charges. RCEA's electric generation charge replaces PG&E's electric generation charge. RCEA's charge is not a duplicate charge or extra fee. PG&E will continue to charge you for electric delivery services. If you opt out of RCEA, PG&E will resume charging you for electric generation.

**ENROLLMENT:** California State Assembly Bill 117, passed and signed into law in 2002, requires that Community Choice Energy programs like RCEA's operate as the primary electric generation service provider through an automatic enrollment process. Accounts within RCEA's service area are automatically enrolled

with RCEA's REpower energy service unless the account holder chooses to opt out or sign up for REpower+ 100% renewable energy. Account holders may request to opt out at any time, or to choose REpower+ 100% renewable energy. **To sign up for REpower+, call (800) 931-7232 or visit RedwoodEnergy.org.**

**FAILURE TO PAY:** Redwood Coast Energy Authority may transfer your account to PG&E upon 60 calendar days' written notice if you fail to pay your bill.

**OPT OUT:** You may opt out of RCEA's CCE program at any time by calling (800) 931-7232, or by visiting RedwoodEnergy.org. Please have your PG&E account information on hand to process your request. There is no fee to opt out at any time.

**Please be advised** that if you do opt out and return to PG&E's bundled service, you will not have the option to return to RCEA's service for one full year, subject to PG&E's terms and conditions of service. Accounts will be transferred on the day the electric meter is read and cannot be transferred during the middle of a billing cycle. In order for your request to be processed on your next meter read date, your request must be received at least 5 business days prior to the date on which the meter is read. If you opt out after 60 days of service, you will have two options: 1) return to PG&E service immediately, paying PG&E's transitional electricity rate (which varies and could be higher or lower than PG&E's standard rate) for the first 6 months of PG&E service, or 2) provide notice of your chosen opt-out date 6 months in advance, then return to PG&E service at their standard rate after continuing service with RCEA for those 6 months.

## Participating Communities

If you live or work anywhere in Humboldt County, you can now be part of Community Choice Energy.

EUREKA



ARCATA



FORTUNA



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT



RIO DELL



BLUE LAKE



TRINIDAD



FERNDALE



To learn more, visit [RedwoodEnergy.org](http://RedwoodEnergy.org) or call us toll free at 1 (800) 931-7232.