Public Comment

for January 11, 2016 RCEA Board of Directors Meeting Board of Directors Redwood Coast Energy Authority 633 3rd Street Eureka, CA 95501

Subject: Request to postpone the release of RCEA CCA Participation Ordinance

Dear Board of Directors,

RCEA is taking steps to institute a-Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program in Humboldt County, where local energy customers would purchase electricity from RCEA and transmission, distribution and natural gas from PGE.

Key components to the success of any CCA program include the active participation of its community and their ability to make informed choices about the energy they purchase.

In an effort to develop the CCA program, RCEA intends to investigate many unknown scenarios with the assistance of a consultant who has direct experience with the process of instituting CCA's in California. According to Phase One of RCEA's Scope of Services, this consultant would assist RCEA with community engagement, rate analysis, supply scenarios, economic impacts, sensitivity analysis, financial analysis, and risk analysis.

In order for these analyses to prove helpful, the community should have the opportunity to review these findings before choosing whether the adoption of a Participation Ordinance is the appropriate action to take. The consequence of adopting a Participation Ordinance without this critical information is automatic enrollment of community members that may not benefit from the rate schedules or supply scenarios offered by the CCA. These community members should be given the chance to exempt themselves from the Participation Ordinance and the automatic enrollment process, based on the realities presented in the Phase One findings.

The results of RCEA's Phase One findings will offer critical evidence as to the ability of a regional CCA to meet the priorities set by RCEA's Board of Directors: to maximize local renewable energy sources, provide competitive rates and support local economic development. Without reviewing the results of the Phase One findings, it would be premature for any County or City representative to adopt a Participation Ordinance.

I request that RCEA postpone the publication of their Participation Ordinance, until such time as the results of the Phase One findings have been published and shared publicly for review, so that the community can make an informed choice as to whether the adoption of a Participation Ordinance is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Sara Demetroff, Eureka Resident

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