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**BILL ANALYSIS** 

Date: May 8, 2014

Bill Number: AB 2145

**Bill Author: Assemblymember Steven Bradford** 

# DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Contact: Oliver Luby Department: Office of Dan Kalb, Councilmember, District 1 Telephone: 510-238-7013 Fax: 510-238-69130 email: oluby@oaklandnet.com

RECOMMENDED POSITION: Oppose

**Summary of the Bill:** Existing state power regulation rules provide that customers may aggregate their electric loads using community choice aggregators (CCA) and allow customers to affirmatively opt-out of an implemented CCA. The chief effect of AB 2145 would be to replace the existing opt-out requirement for CCAs with an opt-in mechanism.

In addition, the bill contains some non-controversial CCA disclosure provisions.

## Positive Factors for Oakland: None

**Negative Factors for Oakland:** This bill would make it virtually impossible to achieve the critical mass necessary to implement a CCA, due to the impact of the opt-in requirement. The negative impact for Oakland that this causes is the reduction of local control and options.

# PLEASE RATE THE EFFECT OF THIS MEASURE ON THE CITY OF OAKLAND:

\_ Critical (top priority for City lobbyist, city position required ASAP)

X Very Important (priority for City lobbyist, city position necessary)

**Somewhat Important** (City position desirable if time and resources are available)

Minimal or \_\_\_\_\_ None (do not review with City Council, position not required)

Support:

Item: <u>7</u> Rules & Legislation Comte. May 15, 2014



Coalition of California Utility Employees Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) State Building and Construction Trades Council

## **Opposition:**

Alliance for Retail Energy Markets Asian Pacific Environmental Network California Solar Energy Industries Association California State Association of Counties Carbon Free Mountain View City of Richmond City of San Pablo City of Sunnyvale Climate Protection Campaign Community Environmental Council County of Marin Enlightenment Energy Environmental Health Coalition Greenlining Institute League of California Cities LEAN Energy US Local Clean Energy Alliance of the San Francisco Bay Area LA County Board of Supervisors Marin Clean Energy Marin County Board of Supervisors Monterey Regional Waste Management District Office of Ratepayer Advocates, CPUC OurEvolution Energy & Engineering Pacific Energy Advisors, Inc. Public Interest Coalition Resilient Neighborhoods San Diego Clean Energy San Francisco Clean Energy Advocates Alliance Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors School Project for Utility Rate Reduction Sierra Club California Solar Energy Industries Association SolEd Benefit Corporation Sonoma Clean Power

Item: 7 Rules & Legislation Comte. May 15, 2014 AB 2145 Bill Analysis

> Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority Sonoma Water Agency Sungevity Sustainable Marin The Utility Reform Network (TURN) Town of Fairfax Western Power Trading Forum

Attached: bill text.

Respectfully Submitted,

Councilmember Dan Kalb

Item: <u>7</u> Rules & Legislation Comte. May 15, 2014

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2013-14 REGULAR SESSION

# **ASSEMBLY BILL**

# No. 2145

### **Introduced by Assembly Member Bradford**

February 20, 2014

An act to amend Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to electricity.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2145, as amended, Bradford. Electricity: community choice aggregation.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations, as defined. Existing law The Public Utilities Act authorizes a community choice aggregator, as defined, to aggregate the electrical load of interested electricity consumers within its boundaries and requires a community choice aggregator to file an implementation plan with the commission and requires that the plan include disclosures of certain information and describe other matter. Existing law The act requires the community choice aggregator to provide each customer an opportunity to opt out of his or her community's aggregation program. The act provides that customer participation in the community choice aggregation program does not require a positive written declaration for participation, but each customer shall be informed of his or her right to opt out of the program. The act provides that if no negative declaration is made by the customer regarding participation, the customer shall be served by the community choice aggregation program. The act requires an electrical corporation to cooperate fully with any community choice aggregator that investigates, pursues, or implements community choice aggregation programs, including providing appropriate billing and electrical load data. Existing law The act requires an electrical corporation, when requested by, and at the expense of, a community choice aggregator, to install, maintain, and calibrate metering devices at mutually agreeable locations within or adjacent to the community choice aggregator's political boundaries. Existing law The act requires a community choice aggregator to register with the commission, which may require additional information to ensure compliance with basic consumer protection rules and other procedural matters.

This bill would instead provide that each customer be given an opportunity to opt in to his or her community's aggregation program. The bill would require a positive declaration from a customer for participation in the community choice aggregation program and that each customer be informed of his or her right to opt in to the program. The bill would provide that a customer shall be served by the community choice aggregation program if an affirmative declaration is made. The bill would require solicitations of customers by a community choice aggregator contain, and communication by the community choice aggregator to the public or prospective and existing customers to be consistent with, specified information and would require the implementation plan to include the disclosure of those specified information. The bill would require that the implementation plan filed by a community choice aggregator make full disclosure of certain information and completely describe other matter required to be disclosed under existing law. The bill would authorize the commission to require that a community choice aggregator, when registering with the commission, provide additional information to ensure compliance with basic consumer protection and other rules and other procedural matters. The bill would make other technical, nonsubstantive revisions to the community choice aggregator provisions.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or any order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because the bill would impose requirements regarding communication by a community choice aggregator, a violation of which would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state.

Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

-3-

*This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.* 

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.

## The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code is 2 amended to read:

3 366.2. (a) (1) Customers shall be entitled to aggregate their 4 electric loads as members of their local community with 5 community choice aggregators.

6 (2) Customers may aggregate their loads through a public 7 process with community choice aggregators, if each customer is 8 given an opportunity to opt-out of *in to* his or her community's 9 aggregation program.

(3) If a customer opts out of does not opt in to a community
choice aggregator's program, or has no community choice
aggregation program available, that customer shall-have the right
to continue to be served by the existing electrical corporation or
its successor in interest.

(4) The implementation of a community choice aggregation
program shall not result in a shifting of costs between the customers
of the community choice aggregator and the bundled service
customers of an electrical corporation.

(5) A community choice aggregator shall be solely responsible
 for all generation procurement activities on behalf of the
 community choice aggregator's customers, except where other
 generation procurement arrangements are expressly authorized by
 statute.

(b) If a public agency seeks to serve as a community choiceaggregator, it shall offer the opportunity to purchase electricity toall residential customers within its jurisdiction.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding Section 366, a community choice
aggregator is hereby authorized to aggregate the electrical load of
interested electricity consumers within its boundaries to reduce
transaction costs to consumers, provide consumer protection, and
leverage the negotiation of contracts. However, the community

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1 choice aggregator may not aggregate electrical load if that load is 2 served by a local publicly owned electric utility. A community 3 choice aggregator may group retail electricity customers to solicit 4 bids, broker, and contract for electricity and energy services for 5 those customers. The community choice aggregator may enter into 6 agreements for services to facilitate the sale and purchase of 7 electricity and other related services. Those service agreements 8 may be entered into by an entity authorized to be a community choice aggregator, as defined in Section 331.1. 9

10 (2) Under community choice aggregation, customer participation 11 may not shall require a positive written declaration, but declaration 12 and each customer shall be informed of his or her right to opt-out 13 of in to the community choice aggregation program. If no negative 14 an affirmative declaration is made by a customer, that customer 15 shall be served through the community choice aggregation program. If an existing customer moves the location of his or her 16 17 electric service within the jurisdiction of the community choice 18 aggregator, the customer shall retain the same subscriber status as 19 prior to the move, unless the customer affirmatively changes his 20 or her subscriber status. If the customer is moving from outside to 21 inside the jurisdiction of the community choice aggregator, 22 customer participation shall-not require a positive written 23 declaration, but declaration and the customer shall be informed 24 of his or her right to elect not to receive service through the 25 community choice aggregator. opt in to the community choice 26 aggregation program.

27 (3) A community choice aggregator establishing electrical load 28 aggregation pursuant to this section shall develop an 29 implementation plan detailing the process and consequences of 30 aggregation. The implementation plan, and any subsequent changes 31 to it, shall be considered and adopted at a duly noticed public 32 hearing. The implementation plan shall contain all of the following: 33 (A) An organizational structure of the program, its operations, 34 and its funding.

(B) Ratesetting and other costs to participants.

36 (C) Provisions for full disclosure of all information specified
 37 in paragraph (15) and due process in setting rates and allocating
 38 costs among participants.

39 (D) The methods for entering and terminating agreements with40 other entities.

1 (E) The rights and responsibilities of program participants. 2 including, but not limited to, consumer protection procedures. 3 credit issues, and shutoff procedures.

-5-

(F) Termination of the program.

(G) A description of the third parties that will be supplying 5 6 electricity under the program, including, but not limited to, 7 complete information about financial, technical, and operational 8 capabilities.

9 (4) A community choice aggregator establishing electrical load aggregation shall prepare a statement of intent with the 10 11 implementation plan. Any community choice load aggregation 12 established pursuant to this section shall provide for the following: 13

(A) Universal access.

(B) Reliability.

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(C) Equitable treatment of all classes of customers.

16 (D) Any requirements established by state law or by the 17 commission concerning aggregated service, including, but not 18 limited to, those rules adopted by the commission pursuant to 19 paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 8341 for the application 20 of the greenhouse gases emission performance standard to 21 community choice aggregators.

22 (5) In order to determine the cost-recovery mechanism to be 23 imposed on the community choice aggregator pursuant to 24 subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) that shall be paid by the customers of 25 the community choice aggregator to prevent shifting of costs, the 26 community choice aggregator shall file the implementation plan 27 with the commission, and any other information requested by the 28 commission that the commission determines is necessary to develop 29 the cost-recovery mechanism in subdivisions (d), (e), and (f).

30 (6) The commission shall notify any electrical corporation 31 serving the customers proposed for aggregation that an 32 implementation plan initiating community choice aggregation has 33 been filed, within 10 days of the filing.

34 (7) Within 90 days after the community choice aggregator 35 establishing load aggregation files its implementation plan, the commission shall certify that it has received the implementation 36 37 plan, including any additional information necessary to determine 38 a cost-recovery mechanism. After certification of receipt of the 39 implementation plan and any additional information requested, 40 the commission shall then provide the community choice

1 aggregator with its findings regarding any cost recovery that must

2 be paid by customers of the community choice aggregator to

3 prevent a shifting of costs as provided for in subdivisions (d), (e),4 and (f).

5 (8) No entity proposing community choice aggregation shall 6 act to furnish electricity to electricity consumers within its 7 boundaries until the commission determines the cost recovery that 8 must be paid by the customers of that proposed community choice 9 aggregation program, as provided for in subdivisions (d), (e), and (f). The commission shall designate the earliest possible effective 10 11 date for implementation of a community choice aggregation 12 program, taking into consideration the impact on any annual procurement plan of the electrical corporation that has been 13 14 approved by the commission.

15 (9) An electrical corporation shall cooperate fully with any 16 community choice aggregators that investigate, pursue, or 17 implement community choice aggregation programs. Cooperation 18 shall include providing the entities with appropriate billing and electrical load data, including, but not limited to, electrical 19 20 consumption data as defined in Section 8380 and other data 21 detailing electricity needs and patterns of usage, as determined by 22 the commission, and in accordance with procedures established 23 by the commission. The commission shall exercise its authority 24 pursuant to Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 2100) to enforce 25 the requirements of this paragraph when it finds that the requirements of this paragraph have been violated. Electrical 26 27 corporations shall continue to provide all metering, billing, 28 collection, and customer service to retail customers that participate 29 in community choice aggregation programs. Bills sent by the electrical corporation to retail customers shall identify the 30 31 community choice aggregator as providing the electrical energy 32 component of the bill. The commission shall determine the terms 33 and conditions under which the electrical corporation provides services to community choice aggregators and retail customers. 34

(10) If the commission finds that an electrical corporation or
 *community choice aggregator* has violated this section, the
 commission shall consider the impact of the violation upon
 community choice aggregators. order appropriate corrective
 *action*.

1 (11) The commission shall proactively expedite the complaint 2 process for disputes regarding an electrical corporation's or 3 community choice aggregator's violation of its obligations pursuant 4 to this section in order to provide for timely resolution of 5 complaints made by community choice aggregation programs, 6 complaints, so that all complaints are resolved in no more than 7 180 days following the filing of a complaint by a community choice 8 aggregation program concerning the actions of the incumbent 9 electrical corporation. complaint. This deadline may only be 10 extended under either of the following circumstances:

-7-

(A) Upon agreement of all of the parties to the complaint.

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(B) The commission makes a written determination that the
deadline cannot be met, including findings for the reason for this
determination, and issues an order extending the deadline. A single
order pursuant to this subparagraph shall not extend the deadline
for more than 60 days.

17 (12) (A) An entity authorized to be a community choice 18 aggregator, as defined in Section 331.1, that elects to implement 19 a community choice aggregation program within its jurisdiction 20 pursuant to this chapter, shall do so by ordinance. A city, county, 21 or city and county may request, by affirmative resolution of its 22 governing council or board, that another entity authorized to be a 23 community choice aggregator act as the community choice 24 aggregator on its behalf. If a city, county, or city and county, by 25 resolution, requests another authorized entity be the community 26 choice aggregator for the city, county, or city and county, that 27 authorized entity shall be responsible for adopting the ordinance 28 to implement the community choice aggregation program on behalf 29 of the city, county, or city and county.

30 (B) Two or more entities authorized to be a community choice 31 aggregator, as defined in Section 331.1, may participate as a group 32 in a community choice aggregation program pursuant to this 33 chapter, through a joint powers agency established pursuant to 34 Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 7 of Title 35 1 of the Government Code, if each entity adopts an ordinance 36 pursuant to subparagraph (A). Pursuant to Section 6508.1 of the 37 Government Code, members of a joint powers agency that is a 38 community choice aggregator may specify in their joint powers 39 agreement that, unless otherwise agreed by the members of the 40 agency, the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the agency shall

not be the debts, liabilities, and obligations, either jointly or 1 2 severally, of the members of the agency. The commission shall 3 not, as a condition of registration or otherwise, require an agency's 4 members to voluntarily assume the debts, liabilities, and obligations 5 of the agency to the electrical corporation unless the commission 6 finds that the agreement by the agency's members is the only 7 reasonable means by which the agency may establish its 8 creditworthiness under the electrical corporation's tariff to pay 9 charges to the electrical corporation under the tariff.

10 (13) Following adoption of aggregation through the ordinance described in paragraph (12), the program shall allow any retail 11 12 customer to opt-out and to continue to be served as a bundled 13 service customer by the existing electrical corporation, or its 14 successor in interest. in to the community choice aggregation 15 program. Delivery services shall be provided at the same rates, 16 terms, and conditions, as approved by the commission, for 17 community choice aggregation customers and customers that have 18 entered into a direct transaction where applicable, as determined 19 by the commission. Once enrolled in the aggregated entity, any 20 ratepayer that chooses to opt out within 60 days or two billing 21 cycles of the date of enrollment may do so without penalty and 22 shall be entitled to receive default service pursuant to paragraph 23 (3) of subdivision (a). Customers that return to the electrical 24 corporation for procurement services shall be subject to the same 25 terms and conditions as are applicable to other returning direct 26 access customers from the same class, as determined by the 27 commission, as authorized by the commission pursuant to this 28 code or any other provision of law, except that those customers 29 shall be subject to no more than a 12-month stay requirement with 30 the electrical corporation. Any reentry fees to be imposed after the 31 opt-out period specified in this paragraph, shall be approved by 32 the commission and shall reflect the cost of reentry. The 33 commission shall exclude any amounts previously determined and 34 paid pursuant to subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) from the cost of 35 reentry.

36 (14) Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing
37 any city or any community choice retail load aggregator to restrict
38 the ability of retail electricity customers to obtain or receive service
39 from any authorized electric service provider in a manner consistent
40 with law.

1 (15) (A) The community choice aggregator shall fully inform 2 participating customers at least twice within two calendar months. 3 or 60 days, in advance of the date of commencing automatic 4 enrollment. Notifications may occur concurrently with billing 5 eycles. Following enrollment, the aggregated entity shall fully 6 inform participating customers for not less than two consecutive 7 billing eycles. Notification may include, but is not limited to, direct 8 mailings to customers, or inserts in water, sewer, or other utility 9 bills. Any notification shall fully inform customers of both of the 10 following:

-9-

(i) That they are to be automatically enrolled and that the
 customer has the right to opt out of the community choice
 aggregator without penalty.

14 (ii) All terms and conditions of the services offered.

15 (B) The community choice aggregator may request the 16 commission to approve and order the electrical corporation to 17 provide the notification required in subparagraph (A). If the 18 commission orders the electrical corporation to send one or more 19 of the notifications required pursuant to subparagraph (A) in the 20 electrical corporation's normally scheduled monthly billing 21 process, the electrical corporation shall be entitled to recover from 22 the community choice aggregator all reasonable incremental costs 23 it incurs related to the notification or notifications. The electrical 24 corporation shall fully cooperate with the community choice 25 aggregator in determining the feasibility and costs associated with 26 using the electrical corporation's normally scheduled monthly 27 billing process to provide one or more of the notifications required 28 pursuant to subparagraph (A). 29 (C) Each notification shall also include a mechanism by which

a ratepayer may opt out of community choice aggregated service.
The opt out may take the form of a self-addressed return postcard
indicating the customer's election to remain with, or return to,
electrical energy service provided by the electrical corporation, or
another straightforward means by which the customer may elect
to derive electrical energy service through the electrical corporation
providing service in the area.

37 (15) Every solicitation of customers by a community choice
38 aggregator shall contain, and communication by the community
39 choice aggregator to the public or to a prospective or existing
40 customer shall be consistent with, the following information:

1 (A) The electric supply rate for the customer if the customer 2 remains with the electrical corporation compared to the electric 3 supply rate if the customer chooses to be served by the community 4 choice aggregator. Rates shall be specific to the customer class 5 of that customer and shall be provided for the next five years of 6 service. The electrical corporation shall provide its projected 7 electric supply rate to the community choice aggregator.

8 (B) The annual greenhouse gas emissions rate for electricity 9 actually delivered to customers for the previous two years if the community choice aggregator has been serving customers and the 10 projected annual greenhouse gas emissions rate for electricity to 11 be actually delivered in the next five years of service. The projected 12 13 greenhouse gas emissions rate for each year shall be calculated using the regulations and protocols established by the State Air 14 15 Resources Board, and for previous years using the greenhouse gas emissions reported pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with 16 17 Section 95100) of Subchapter 10 of Chapter 1 of Division 3 of 18 Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations. The greenhouse gas emissions rate shall include any emissions otherwise 19 20 attributable to any first importer supplying electricity to the 21 community choice aggregator, whether or not the community 22 choice aggregator is a first deliverer as defined in paragraph (175) 23 of subdivision (a) of Section 95102 of Title 17 of the California 24 Code of Regulations.

25 (16) A community choice aggregator shall have an operating 26 service agreement with the electrical corporation prior to furnishing electric service to consumers within its jurisdiction. The service 27 28 agreement shall include performance standards that govern the business and operational relationship between the community 29 choice aggregator and the electrical corporation. The commission 30 shall ensure that any service agreement between the community 31 32 choice aggregator and the electrical corporation includes equitable responsibilities and remedies for all parties. The parties may 33 34 negotiate specific terms of the service agreement, provided that 35 the service agreement is consistent with this chapter.

(17) The community choice aggregator shall register with the
 commission, which may require additional information to ensure
 compliance with basic consumer protection and other rules and
 other procedural matters.

(18) Once the community choice aggregator's contract is signed,
 the community choice aggregator shall notify the applicable
 electrical corporation that community choice service will
 commence within 30 days.

5 (19) Once notified of a community choice aggregator program, 6 the electrical corporation shall transfer all applicable accounts to 7 the new supplier within a 30-day period from the date of the close 8 of the electrical corporation's normally scheduled monthly 9 metering and billing process.

10 (20) An electrical corporation shall recover from the community 11 choice aggregator any costs reasonably attributable to the 12 community choice aggregator, as determined by the commission, 13 of implementing this section, including, but not limited to, all 14 business and information system changes, except for 15 transaction-based costs as described in this paragraph. Any costs 16 not reasonably attributable to a community choice aggregator shall 17 be recovered from ratepayers, as determined by the commission. 18 All reasonable transaction-based costs of notices, billing, metering, 19 collections, and customer communications or other services 20 provided to an aggregator or its customers shall be recovered from 21 the aggregator or its customers on terms and at rates to be approved 22 by the commission.

23 (21) At the request and expense of any community choice 24 aggregator, an electrical corporation shall install, maintain, and 25 calibrate metering devices at mutually agreeable locations within 26 or adjacent to the community choice aggregator's political 27 boundaries. The electrical corporation shall read the metering 28 devices and provide the data collected to the community choice 29 aggregator at the aggregator's expense. To the extent that the 30 community choice aggregator requests a metering location that 31 would require alteration or modification of a circuit, the electrical 32 corporation shall only be required to alter or modify a circuit if 33 that alteration or modification does not compromise the safety, 34 reliability, or operational flexibility of the electrical corporation's 35 facilities. All costs incurred to modify circuits pursuant to this 36 paragraph, shall be borne by the community choice aggregator.

37 (d) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that each retail end-use
38 customer that has purchased power from an electrical corporation
39 on or after February 1, 2001, should bear a fair share of the
40 Department of Water Resources' electricity purchase costs, as well

1 as electricity purchase contract obligations incurred as of the

2 effective date of the act adding this section, that are recoverable

3 from electrical corporation customers in commission-approved 4 rates. It is further the intent of the Legislature to prevent any

5 shifting of recoverable costs between customers.

6 (2) The Legislature finds and declares that this subdivision is
7 consistent with the requirements of Division 27 (commencing with
8 Section 80000) of the Water Code and Section 360.5 of this code,
9 and is therefore declaratory of existing law.

(e) A retail end-use customer that purchases electricity from a
 community choice aggregator pursuant to this section shall pay
 both of the following:

13 (1) A charge equivalent to the charges that would otherwise be imposed on the customer by the commission to recover 14 15 bond-related costs pursuant to any agreement between the commission and the Department of Water Resources pursuant to 16 Section 80110 of the Water Code, which charge shall be payable 17 18 until any obligations of the Department of Water Resources 19 pursuant to Division 27 (commencing with Section 80000) of the 20 Water Code are fully paid or otherwise discharged.

21 (2) Any additional costs of the Department of Water Resources, 22 equal to the customer's proportionate share of the Department of 23 Water Resources' estimated net unavoidable electricity purchase 24 contract costs as determined by the commission, for the period 25 commencing with the customer's purchases of electricity from the 26 community choice aggregator, through the expiration of all then 27 existing electricity purchase contracts entered into by the 28 Department of Water Resources.

(f) A retail end-use customer purchasing electricity from a
community choice aggregator pursuant to this section shall
reimburse the electrical corporation that previously served the
customer for all of the following:

(1) The electrical corporation's unrecovered past
undercollections for electricity purchases, including any financing
costs, attributable to that customer, that the commission lawfully
determines may be recovered in rates.

37 (2) Any additional costs of the electrical corporation recoverable
38 in commission-approved rates, equal to the share of the electrical
39 corporation's estimated net unavoidable electricity purchase
40 contract costs attributable to the customer, as determined by the

commission, for the period commencing with the customer's
 purchases of electricity from the community choice aggregator,
 through the expiration of all then existing electricity purchase
 contracts entered into by the electrical corporation.

5 (g) Estimated net unavoidable electricity costs paid by the 6 customers of a community choice aggregator shall be reduced by 7 the value of any benefits that remain with bundled service 8 customers, unless the customers of the community choice 9 aggregator are allocated a fair and equitable share of those benefits.

10 (h) (1) Any charges imposed pursuant to subdivision (e) shall 11 be the property of the Department of Water Resources. Any charges 12 imposed pursuant to subdivision (f) shall be the property of the 13 electrical corporation. The commission shall establish mechanisms, 14 including agreements with, or orders with respect to, electrical 15 corporations necessary to ensure that charges payable pursuant to 16 this section shall be promptly remitted to the party entitled to 17 payment.

18 (2) Charges imposed pursuant to subdivisions (d), (e), and (f)19 shall be nonbypassable.

(i) The commission shall authorize community choice
aggregation only if the commission imposes a cost-recovery
mechanism pursuant to subdivisions (d), (e), (f), and (h). Except
as provided by this subdivision, this section shall not alter the
suspension by the commission of direct purchases of electricity
from alternate providers other than by community choice
aggregators, pursuant to Section 365.1.

(j) (1) The commission shall not authorize community choice
aggregation until it implements a cost-recovery mechanism,
consistent with subdivisions (d), (e), and (f), that is applicable to
customers that elected to purchase electricity from an alternate
provider between February 1, 2001, and January 1, 2003.

32 (2) The commission shall not authorize community choice
 33 aggregation until it has adopted rules for implementing community
 34 choice aggregation.

35 (k) (1) Except for nonbypassable charges imposed by the 36 commission pursuant to subdivisions (d), (e), (f), and (h), and 37 programs authorized by the commission to provide broader 38 statewide or regional benefits to all customers, electric service 39 customers of a community choice aggregator shall not be required 40 to pay nonbypassable charges for goods, services, or programs

that do not benefit either, or where applicable, both, the customer
 and the community choice aggregator serving the customer.

(2) The commission, Energy Commission, electrical corporation,
or third-party administrator shall administer any program funded
through a nonbypassable charge on a nondiscriminatory basis so
that the electric service customers of a community choice
aggregator may participate in the program on an equal basis with
the customers of an electrical corporation.

9 (3) Nothing in this subdivision is intended to modify, or prohibit 10 the use of, charges funding programs for the benefit of low-income 11 customers.

12 (1) (1) An electrical corporation shall not terminate the services 13 of a community choice aggregator unless authorized by a vote of the full commission. The commission shall ensure that prior to 14 15 authorizing a termination of service, that the community choice 16 aggregator has been provided adequate notice and a reasonable 17 opportunity to be heard regarding any electrical corporation 18 contentions in support of termination. If the contentions made by 19 the electrical corporation in favor of termination include factual 20 claims, the community choice aggregator shall be afforded an 21 opportunity to address those claims in an evidentiary hearing.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the Independent System
Operator has transferred the community choice aggregator's
scheduling coordination responsibilities to the incumbent electrical
corporation, an administrative law judge or assigned commissioner,
after providing the aggregator with notice and an opportunity to
respond, may suspend the aggregator's service to customers
pending a full vote of the commission.

(m) Any meeting of an entity authorized to be a community
choice aggregator, as defined in Section 331.1, for the purpose of
developing, implementing, or administering a program of
community choice aggregation shall be conducted in the manner
prescribed by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Chapter 9 (commencing
with Section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the
Government Code).

(n) Amendments to this section made by Assembly Bill 2145 of
the 2013–14 Regular Session do not affect the enrollment status
of a customer already enrolled in a community choice aggregation

39 program prior to January 1, 2015.

1 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to 2 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because 3 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school 4 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or 5 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of 6 7 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California 8

9 Constitution.

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April 23, 2014

The Honorable Steven Bradford, Chair Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0062



## RE: AB 2145 - OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Bradford and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Local Clean Energy Alliance of the San Francisco Bay Area and the 23 organizations signed on to this letter. I would like to express our strong opposition to California Assembly Bill 2145 (AB 2145), the Monopoly Protection Bill, which would essentially reverse the Community Choice Aggregation law (AB 117) passed in 2002.

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Many communities, individuals, and businesses in our region strongly support Community Choice programs as a tool to foster healthy competition, to increase the development of energy efficiency and new local renewable power resources, to achieve substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, to stimulate local economies, and to create new local living wage jobs. Community Choice programs support State energy and economic development goals, and State law should facilitate the expansion of such programs by local governments.

In the northern California service territory there has been no choice of provider for electricity consumers for over 100 years. The investor-owned utility enjoys a "natural monopoly" in its service territory.

No one ever opted in to the investor-owned utility; its customers are captive ratepayers. The opt-out structure that AB 2145 would eliminate simply levels the playing field. Without that structure, it would not be possible to establish Community Choice programs.

AB 2145 is clearly targeted by powerful special interests to undermine and eliminate Community Choice programs. AB 2145 follows in the footsteps of AB 976 in 2011/12, correctly vetoed by Governor Brown, and Proposition 16 in 2010, smartly defeated by the California electorate. AB 2145 represents a direct attack on the intent of AB 117 just as it is beginning to bear fruit in Marin and Sonoma Counties, and as many other communities throughout California are actively exploring Community Choice programs.

The Local Clean Energy Alliance therefore urges you to help the State achieve its clean energy and economic development goals by strongly opposing AB 2145.

Sincerely,

Al Weinme

Al Weinrub Coordinator, Local Clean Energy Alliance

### Signatories

Oakland City Councilmember Lynette McElhaney Clean Energy & Jobs Oakland Campaign, Oakland Climate Action Coalition Community Choice Energy Working Group, Berkeley Climate Action Coalition Sun Light & Power Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project Global Exchange 350 Bay Area People United for a Better Life in Oakland (PUEBLO) Kehilla Community Synagogue, Greening Committee Energy Solidarity Cooperative Everybody Solar **Bay Localize Planting Justice** Alameda County Green Party Movement Generation Justice and Ecology Project **RE-volv** Victory Garden Foundation Rose Foundation for Communities & the Environment New Voices Are Rising **Greywater Action** The Action Hub, Richmond

#### CC:

Jim Patterson, Vice Chair Susan A. Bonilla, Member Joan Buchanan, Member Rocky J. Chávez, Member Brian Dahle, Member Paul Fong, Member Beth Gaines, Member Cristina Garcia, Member Roger Hernández, Member Brian W. Jones, Member Kevin Mullin, Member Bill Quirk, Member Anthony Rendon, Member Nancy Skinner, Member DaVina Flemings, Principal Consultant, Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Martha Guzman, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office

The Local Clean Energy Alliance is the Bay Area's largest clean energy coalition, with 90 affiliated member organizations, including environmental justice, social justice, environmental, business, and community groups. The Alliance sees the need for an integrated energy policy that includes both energy demand reduction and local renewable generation resources. We believe that it is through developing both these types of resources that communities can achieve their full greenhouse gas reduction and climate adaptation potential while enhancing local economies, providing clean energy jobs, strengthening community resilience, advancing social equity, and improving community health.

436 14th Street #1216, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 834-0420 www.localcleanenergy.org

BFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK OAKLAND

14 MAY -8 PM 3: 11

Approved as to Form and Legality

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

# **RESOLUTION NO.**

C.M.S.

# INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER KALB

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 2145 (BRADFORD) – STATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD EFFECTIVELY IMPEDE LOCAL JURISDICTIONS' ABILITY TO CREATE WORKABLE ELECTRICITY COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROGRAMS BY REPLACING THE CURRENT OPT-OUT STRUCTURE WITH AN OPT-IN STRUCTURE

WHEREAS, existing state power regulation rules provide that customers may aggregate their electric loads using community choice aggregators (CCA) and require customers to affirmatively opt-out of an implemented CCA; and

WHEREAS, AB 2145 authored by Assemblymember Steven Bradford would replace the existing opt-out requirement for CCAs with an opt-in mechanism; and

WHEREAS, a letter to Assemblymember Bradford from the Local Clean Energy Alliance in Oakland refers to AB 2145 as the "Monopoly Protection Bill" and notes that it would essentially reverse the Community Choice Aggregation Law passed in 2002, since an opt-in requirement would make it virtually impossible to achieve the critical mass necessary to implement a CCA; and

WHEREAS, AB 2145 is reminiscent of other legislative efforts to impede the formation of CCAs, including California Proposition 16, which Pacific Gas & Electric spent over \$44 million to pass, would have required two-thirds voter approval before local governments could expend funds or issue bonds to establish public electricity service or a CCA, and the electorate voted to reject in 2010; and

WHEREAS, AB 2145 fundamentally reduces local control over the CCA process; and

WHEREAS, AB 2145 is opposed by numerous organizations and governments, including Asian Pacific Environmental Network, the Cities of Richmond, San Pablo, and Sunnyvale, Greenlining Institute, League of California Cities, Sierra Club California, and The Utility Reform Network; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council hereby opposes AB 2145.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California