


CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB

RESOLUTION TO UPGRADE THE DEFAULT ELECTRICITY SERVICE PLAN FOR ELECTRICITY RATE PAYERS IN OAKLAND FROM AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY'S BRIGHT CHOICE 49.4% RENEWABLE ENERGY PLAN (BRIGHT CHOICE) TO AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY'S RENEWABLE 100% PLAN (RENEWABLE 100) TO PROVIDE 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM WIND AND SOLAR FOR MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS IN MARCH 2025

WHEREAS, Fossil fuel extraction and combustion is a primary cause of the present serious climate emergency that threatens the well-being of living things locally and throughout the planet; and

WHEREAS, according to scientists and engineers, transitioning society to less greenhouse gas (GHG) intensive forms of energy, namely cleaner electricity, is fundamental to decarbonization; and

WHEREAS, in July 2020, the City of Oakland adopted its Equitable Climate Action Plan (ECAP), which stated that Oakland's climate models showed that a 100% clean energy grid was required to achieve our climate targets in 2030 and 2050; and

WHEREAS, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) energy authorities, such as Ava Community Energy (Ava), previously East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), which procure cleaner electric power from low-carbon sources on behalf of electricity customers, are a key strategy to meet local clean energy goals and greenhouse gas reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 Oakland began providing electricity for all City-owned buildings from 100% carbon-free sources through EBCE; and

WHEREAS, Cities have the authority to request clean, greenhouse gas-free default electric service plans as the default plan for eligible residential and commercial customers, allowing customers to return to Bright Choice as an option; and

WHEREAS, the city councils of other Ava participating jurisdictions such as Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Hayward, Piedmont, Pleasanton and San Leandro have requested default service plans featuring 100% all-renewable, GHG-free electricity for their customers; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2021, EBCE approved the city council of Dublin request to opt up all residential customers, excluding those in the California Rates Energy Program (CARE), Family Electrical Rate Assistance (FERA), and Medical Baseline Allowance programs, to *Renewable 100* service to meet their greenhouse gas emission reduction goals adopted in their “Climate Action Plan 2030 and Beyond;” and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to follow this plan and opt up all residential customers, excluding those in the CARE, FERA, and Medical Baseline Allowance programs; and

WHEREAS, given the present climate emergency, establishing a new default for residential and commercial customers while maintaining current plans for lower income customers likely will yield substantially more GHG savings than the best marketing campaign aimed at encouraging customers to opt-up individually; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to position residential and commercial customers throughout our city to take advantage of electricity service with the lowest emissions factor and best environmental profile by replacing *Bright Choice* with *Renewable 100* as the default service plan; and

WHEREAS, Ava Community Energy will reach out to all Oakland customers who are upgraded to the Renewable 100 plan at least twice reminding them how they can opt down to the Bright Choice plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Oakland requests that Ava Community Energy hereby enroll Oakland in the Renewable 100 electric power portfolio as the default product for all Municipal accounts as of March 2025; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to temporarily opt down the city’s municipal accounts to the Bright Choice service plan for up to two years at any time when the Council has declared an “extreme fiscal necessity” as defined by City Council Resolution 89803 C.M.S. or other City Council resolution or ordinance relating to the City’s budget.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, JENKINS, KALB, KAPLAN, RAMACHANDRAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____

ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California