



Media Advisory

Community Energy Department

For Immediate Release

August 6, 2019

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San José Clean Energy, EDP Renewables Ink Long-term Contract for 100 MW of Solar and 10 MW of Battery Storage

SJCE's first agreement will help meet San José's climate goals and accelerate renewable energy in California

Event:	Power Purchase Agreement Signing Ceremony Wednesday, August 7, 2019 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Where:	San José City Hall West Plaza 200 E. Santa Clara St., San José, CA 95113
Speakers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mayor Sam Liccardo• California State Senator Bob Wieckowski• California State Assemblymember Ash Kalra• Tommy Greer, Director of Energy & REC Sales at EDP Renewables North America• Lori Mitchell, Director of San José Clean Energy
Background:	<p>San José Clean Energy (SJCE) and EDP Renewables North America (EDPR NA) will sign a 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) for 100 megawatts (MW) of solar energy and 10 MW of battery storage from the Sonrisa Solar Park in Fresno County, to be constructed, owned, and operated by EDPR NA. The project is anticipated to be operational in 2022 and will be built with union labor.</p> <p>The Sonrisa Solar Park will be EDPR's first North American project to include both solar energy and battery storage. The project will bring economic benefits to the state by way of jobs, landowner and tax payments, and money spent in local communities. With battery storage, solar energy can be generated during the day and distributed during peak evening hours, increasing grid flexibility and reliability and reducing fossil fuel usage and emissions.</p>

This long-term agreement is the first of many SJCE expects to sign to meet customer demand for renewable energy, which will total 2,000 GWh annually by 2022. Increasing the amount of renewable and carbon neutral energy powering San José is a key component of Climate Smart San José, the city's climate action plan.

Operated by the Community Energy Department, SJCE is the City's Community Choice Aggregator (CCA). Through Community Choice, local governments like the City of San José buy electricity from cleaner sources, while the investor-owned utility (PG&E, for San José) continues to deliver it.

In June, the City Council granted the Community Energy Department a \$1 billion buying authority to purchase power through 2043. This will be the first of three PPAs SJCE expects to sign before 2020.

Renewable energy prices have fallen drastically over the last 10 years, to the point that the average total cost to build and operate renewables is often lower than fossil fuels. A long-term PPA offers power at a lower price than short-term contracts, so SJCE will see operational costs decrease with this long-term contract. As a government agency, SJCE will reinvest these savings into the community through lower rates and community programs – instead of shareholders.

SJCE joins another local CCA, East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), in purchasing energy from EDPR's Sonrisa Solar Park, as [announced](#) on June 20, 2019. EDPR's agreements with SJCE and EBCE will enable 200 MW of solar and 40 MW of storage to be constructed at the project. CCAs are driving California's clean energy future: in total, CCAs plan to make long-term investments in more than 10,000 MW of new clean energy resources by 2030, while Investor-Owned Utilities and commercial Energy Service Providers plan to invest in approximately 1,000 MW of new resources combined.