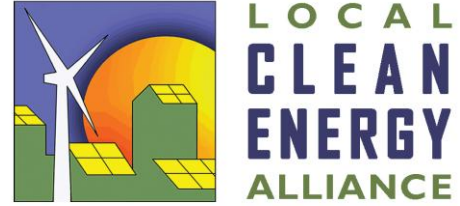


Clean Power, Healthy Communities II

The Second Annual Conference
of the Local Clean Energy Alliance

March 17 & 18, 2011



Every day brings new urgency to the need to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The Bay Area, like metropolitan areas throughout the country, is in economic distress; jobs and the economy are at the forefront of public consciousness. Many are exploring how a clean energy economy can address the economic development, employment, and health needs of Bay Area communities.

With few prospects for a national plan to reduce greenhouse gases anytime soon, it is clear that local communities must lead the way to equitable, clean energy solutions. The San Francisco Bay Area is in a unique position to create a model for a localized clean energy infrastructure. Home both to strong grassroots organizations advocating for clean energy, green jobs, and healthy communities, as well as to global leaders in “cleantech” development, the Bay Area is poised to bypass federal inaction and provide clean energy leadership.

In the past year clean energy activists have scored important victories. We soundly defeated Prop 16, PG&E’s efforts to quash Community Choice, and Marin successfully launched Marin Clean Energy, California’s first Community Choice program. Local businesses and nonprofits are moving more forcefully to reduce overall energy consumption and promote local renewable power.

Nevertheless, Bay Area communities seeking equitable, sustainable solutions are confronted by a number of challenges. PG&E is still trying to build new natural gas-fired power plants in vulnerable communities in Contra Costa County, Hayward, and places outside the Bay Area, even though it already has capacity over 40 percent greater than peak demand. And California energy planners are fast-tracking huge investments in remote central-station renewable power plants in the Mojave Desert that provide little economic benefits or jobs to financially strapped urban communities.

The questions of who controls energy and for whose benefit are increasingly central to addressing the economic and climate crises of our communities.

The second annual Clean Power, Healthy Communities conference will convene activists, stakeholders, and entrepreneurs working on various programs and projects to promote clean energy and healthy communities in the Bay Area and beyond. The conference is meant to foster an interchange among local initiatives throughout the Bay Area with an eye toward more regional coordination and collective action.

Topics Covered (clean energy jobs and healthy communities integrated throughout):

- **Community-Based Decentralized Energy Systems:** Developing a vision
- **Energy Reduction:** Gaining community control of energy efficiency and conservation programs, bringing them to scale, and broadening their impact
- **Local Renewable Energy:** Scaling it up through state policy and community programs
- **Public Power:** Defending and expanding Community Choice Energy and municipal power programs
- **Opposing Fossil Fuels:** The lessons of San Bruno
- **Emerging technologies:** storage, urban wind, nano technology, electric vehicles