
From: Kerstin Trafeli <kerstintrafeli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Comments; Illece Buckley Weber; Denis Weber; Chris Anstead; Deborah Klein Lopez; Linda Northrup
Subject: City Council Meeting Today: Input Regarding Renewable Energy By Public
Attachments: Mariposa - Agoura City Council letter - 100% default energy.docx

Please see attached

Warmly,
Kerstin Ehry

PARENTS from MARIPOSA SCHOOL OF GLOBAL EDUCATION

4/22/2020

Mayor Illece Buckley Weber
The Agoura Hills City Council
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
(distributed via email)

Dear Agoura Hills Mayor and City Councilmembers,

RE: Agenda Item 7 – 100% default energy change – Clean Power Alliance

We write to you today as concerned parents from the Mariposa School of Global Education here in Agoura Hills in strong support of a 100% default energy choice for item #7 on today's city council agenda. Thank you for bringing the issue forward today on Earth Day.

While the COVID-19 crisis has been and continues to be a deeply unsettling reminder of how fragile our interconnected global society truly is, we remain troubled and vigilant about the other still-looming threat to the future of our children and – as we all know far too well from being on the frontlines of the Woolsey Fire – the future of us all: uncontrolled climate change.

We believe moving to a 100% default energy choice is not only necessary, but essential as a tool to do our part to reduce and remove fossil fuels from our energy supply to fight global warming and air pollution. In 2018, Agoura Hills was as close as possible to being "Paradise." Generally, that would be a good thing and true as we love our idyllic city in the hills, but that year, the city of Paradise, California, was completely destroyed by a climate-exacerbated wildfire, the Camp Fire, which started the same day as our own climate-exacerbated Woolsey Fire. We were luckier. There but for the course of the wind over those horrific days would have gone Agoura Hills, our homes, our schools, our business community, and the heavenly lives we have made here with our families.

If we had another extraordinary wildfire and evacuation right now, in the midst of the quarantine, what would we do? Choices like those, unfortunately, await us in a climate-ravaged future.

Elsewhere, buried under the COVID-19 news, the South is getting pounded by a second wave of extreme, climate-exacerbated tornado events in two weeks. Despite the recent rains, California is again under another concerning drought from both sides of its water supply (the Sierra Nevadas *and* the Rockies). And let's not forget about the enormous and horrific wildfires in Australia, Brazil, Angola, Siberian, Indonesia, and other major forests throughout the world in the past year.

Then, last week, under the title, "Wildlife Collapse From Climate Change is Predicted to Hit Suddenly and Sooner," the *New York Times* reported on a disturbing new report in the journal, *Nature*, detailing that enormous collapses in ocean ecosystems and massive animal deaths could begin before 2030, and across all regions in the decade that follows. "The study predicted that large swatches of ecosystems would falter in waves, creating sudden die-offs that would be catastrophic not only for wildlife, but for the humans who depend on it."

PARENTS from MARIPOSA SCHOOL OF GLOBAL EDUCATION

- Page 2 -

The last phrase is the essential one to consider: “but for the humans who depend on it.” As goes the health of our plants and animals goes the health of human beings and society. We now know exactly how fragile our way of life is. In 45 days, without warning, we have collapsed from a robust economy to the worst unemployment in history. As we rebuild, we must do it in a way that continues the reduced emissions we are enjoying during the crisis, and that includes in our energy sector.

While it may not seem like a giant reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions, our tiny but mighty community can send a strong signal today on the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day, join the ranks of our neighboring communities who have gone to 100% without controversy, Ventura, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Malibu, South Pasadena, and so many other cities, and set an example of the steps a climate-resilient city must continue to take, even as it struggles under the weight of more immediate quarantine issues. As the United Nations’ secretary general recently noted, the threat from coronavirus is temporary, whereas the threat from heat waves, floods, and extreme storms resulting in the loss of human life will remain with us for years.

The COVID-19 crisis has shown that the world can actually react to a crisis in record time. The problem with the climate emergency is that we are out of time. We cannot kick these kinds of decisions down the road while we deal with COVID-19. We must act on both.

The choice before the city council today is whether to increase the default to 50% or 100%. Given all of the above, we believe the 100% choice is 100% necessary.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Parents of the students at Mariposa School of Global Education, including:

Ziva Santop, Co-President of CAPTnS (the Collaborative Alliance of Parents, Teachers & Students)

Dr. Kerstin Ehry ND

Dr. Robert Trafeli DO

Andy Shrader

Julie Fullerton

Mike Shoemaker

Rashell George

Kloie Karels

From: Michelle Leahy <michelleleahy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Illece Buckley Weber; Denis Weber; Linda Northrup; Deborah Klein Lopez; Chris Anstead;
Comments
Subject: Re: 100% renewable energy default

Dear Mayor and Council,

While the coronavirus crisis is taking up much of our focus, rightfully so, we are facing an even graver and more devastating existential threat from climate change. It was urgent before the pandemic, and it'll be urgent after we get through this. In fact, with each passing day, the urgency only increases. As such, I strongly urge you **not to delay** the decision to move to 100% clean energy. This is one of the most important and consequential decisions you will make. If you delay, that means you're locking in at least another year of harmful emissions for your community. Is it a good idea to continue polluting and making our collective problem worse? I think we'd all agree it's not. Just as we're learning with the current health crisis, how quickly and aggressively we respond matters. The consequences of inaction grow exponentially, and are fatal. While it may seem like less than ideal timing to take on this decision, right now may very well be the best opportunity you have for a while to transition to clean energy, given the uncertainty of how long we'll be dealing with the coronavirus and its impacts. Since the change won't roll out until October, that gives the City ample time to prepare and work with CPA on communicating with the community to ensure residents and businesses are well informed about their options and can easily switch to another plan. And as a reminder, low income customers won't pay any more for the plan.

Today, the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, could also mark the day that Agoura Hills decided to take a leadership role in transitioning to 100% renewable energy.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. I appreciate your leadership during such an extraordinarily difficult and uncertain time.

Kind regards,

Michelle Ellison
414.915.4140

From: Michelle Leahy <michelleleahy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:16 PM
To: ibuckleyweber@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us <ibuckleyweber@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; dweber@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us <dweber@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; lnorthrup@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us <lnorthrup@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; dlopez@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us <dlopez@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; canstead@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us <canstead@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>
Subject: 100% renewable energy default

Dear Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and Council:

I understand you'll be discussing your renewable energy default with Clean Power Alliance at your meeting tomorrow. I urge you to seize this opportunity to change your default from Lean Power (36% renewable) to 100% Green Power (100% renewable), before the April 1 deadline to go into effect in October.

The 100% renewable energy default is the easiest, most cost-effective, immediate and significant way for your community to reduce its carbon footprint. Simply by setting the default at 100%, your roughly 21,000 residents can virtually eliminate polluting greenhouse gas emissions from their electricity supplies. It will take Agoura Hills much more time, expense and effort to achieve this kind of progress otherwise. Please do not overlook the importance of this decision.

We're in a climate emergency. A little over a year ago, the UN IPCC sounded the alarm bells in a dire report, warning that governments at all levels everywhere, must take "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society" to dramatically cut emissions by 2030 if we hope to avoid climate catastrophe. This means no more half measures, the time for big action is now. What Agoura Hills does matters.

The good news is we have solutions, and local governments are responding. To date, 12 of the 32 member agencies* in Clean Power Alliance have set their defaults at 100% renewable, representing a combined population of 750,000 people. A vast majority of customers have stayed in at 100%, only a small percent have opted down or out. In those jurisdictions with a lower default, like yours, only a fraction of a percent have opted up to 100%. Defaults have immense power to affect outcomes.

Industry studies reveal there is overwhelming public support for renewable energy and it's politically popular. What's been so encouraging is the political readiness and bipartisan support within the local governments that have opted for the 100% renewable default. For example, in the City of Ventura, all seven council members (which was made up of 3 registered Republicans, 3 Democrats, and 1 Independent) voted in unanimous support of 100%. And in Thousand Oaks, all five council members voted in favor. The 100% communities are also diverse in size, geography, industry, socio-economically, racially, etc.

While the 100% Green Power (100% renewable) rate costs 8-11% more than the Lean Power (36% renewable) rate, the renewable content is 64% more, a very compelling return and a small price to pay for long-term benefits. We must consider the costs of externalities associated with polluting emissions. The perception of saving a buck or two in the short term is a dangerous illusion. The costs of inaction will be far greater.

What's noteworthy is that in jurisdictions with the 100% default, low-income customers can participate in the plan at no additional cost.

The 100% renewable default isn't a rate hike, it isn't a mandate, it isn't forcing anything on anyone, it's simply a suggestion, customers still have the freedom and ability to choose another plan according to their own priorities.

California passed legislation which targets 100% clean energy by 2045. The 100% default gives your city an opportunity to achieve that goal 25 years ahead of schedule! And given the urgency of the climate crisis, no time is too soon to transition to clean energy.

In closing, this is likely one of the biggest impact decisions you will make for your community. Renewable energy is now readily available and affordable, we just need to start choosing it. It would be fantastic to have Agoura Hills set an example and join the other member agencies at 100%, leading the way to a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable tomorrow.

Regards,
Michelle Ellison
414.915.4140

* 100% municipalities: Culver City, Malibu, Ojai, Oxnard, Rolling Hills Estates, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Thousand Oaks, Ventura, Ventura County, West Hollywood

From: Alan Weiner <mighty30north@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 2:02 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Agenda item #7

April 22, 2020

to: Agoura Hills City Council and staff

We, the undersigned, are Agoura Hills residents and business owners.

We are writing about item #7 on tonight's council agenda.

We believe that moving to a 100% default energy tier is the proper environmental and moral decision. We urge you, our leaders, to take the logical next step to 100% renewable power.

While we understand that climate change may not be at the front of everyone's mind, the COVID-19 crisis has shown that we can mobilize at all levels in record time. The problem with the climate emergency is that we are out of time. The climate crisis will not wait for us to finish dealing with the virus and its disastrous effects. We must act on both.

The sole sane solution to the climate crisis is a swift transition off fossil fuels and onto renewable energy. The Clean Power Alliance has brought a change in this direction on a large scale. Even so, our own city's default tier of 36% renewable electricity is essentially the same as Edison's standard mix. We appeal to you to take the next step into the future.

- Is there a concern about cost? For most people, a 7% to 9% increase of their energy bill will not be a burden. That is \$7 to \$9 per \$100 energy bill, pennies on the dollar. And of course they can choose another tier in accordance with simple instructions we know the CPA and the city will provide. And low-income customers get the 100% plan at no bill premium.

- Is there a concern about backlash and staff time to unravel complaints? Alan Weiner, 350 Conejo chapter lead, is offering to serve gratis as CPA ombudsman for Agoura Hills to help people opt up or down or out without prejudice.

Two years ago, the city council took a brave step into unknown territory — what was then called the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy program — and into the new world of renewable power. Your early action inspired so many neighboring cities to join that its name was changed to the Clean Power Alliance.

Thank you for your continuing leadership and foresight.

Signed,

Agoura Hills businesses

Jack Moe Gindi, MD

Julie Rosen, LCSW

Dennis Jorge, OD, Agoura Family Optometry

Bruce Grant, Grant General Contracting Inc.

Darren Payne, DPM, Agoura-Los Robles Podiatry

Bharat Shah, Colorful Garden Center

Agoura Hills citizens

Barry Tobisman-Davis

Charlene Tobisman-Davis

Mike Davis

Brina Simon

Sheila Fine

Laura Gross

Wendy Gladwin

John Gladwin

David Friedman

Isaac Becker

Kathryn Greer Rishoff

Gary Livingston, 805 Startups

Joely Friedman

Danielle Bram

Todd Kislak

Eric Bram

Jan Webber

Amy Simon-Weiner

Alan Weiner, 350 Conejo chapter lead

From: Michelle Denker <micheden@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:04 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Discussion of Default Energy Change

Hi,

As a resident of Agoura Hills, I urge the City Council to move up to the 100% renewable level with the Clean Power Alliance now. Please do not delay cutting off carbon emissions.

Thank you.
Michelle

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kristofer Young, DC <kychiro@pacbell.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:17 PM
To: Illece Buckley Weber; Denis Weber; Linda Northrup; Deborah Klein Lopez; Chris Anstead;
Comments
Subject: 100% renewable energy default

Mayor and Council:

In these difficult times, I hope you are faring well.

As the Chapter Chair of the Climate Reality Project of Ventura County, I hope you will vote to set the Agoura Hills renewable energy default at 100%. Our climate crisis will undoubtedly be more severe than our coronavirus crisis, and we need to be as proactive as possible, to protect ourselves and to avoid unnecessarily harsh economic consequences.

Thank you,

Kristofer Young, DC
Chair, Climate Reality Project Ventura County
Functional Medicine Chiropractor
Website: www.Ventura-Chiropractor.com
Ventura Chiropractic & Massage
One stop: <http://about.me/kristoferyoungdc>
Health Blog: <http://dr-kristofer-young-chiropractor.blogspot.com>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kristoferyoung.dc>
Twitter: [@FxMedChiro](https://twitter.com/FxMedChiro)

From: Andy Shrader <andshr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:59 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Public comment for item #7 - Default energy to 100%

Public Comment for Item #7 – Increase default power rate to 100% (this was going to be verbal)

My name's Andy Shrader and my son attends the Mariposa School of Global Education.

Thank you so much for hearing this item, #7, tonight. Especially on Earth Day and especially in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, it is so important to keep a clear eye on climate change and emissions reductions efforts. As the United Nations secretary general noted, the threat from coronavirus is temporary, whereas the threat from heat waves, floods, and extreme storms resulting in massive loss of life will remain with us for years.

I'm speaking to you tonight as a father of two children, 3 and 6. It took me more than 40 years to be evacuated from my home. They've both been evacuated before age 5 and we all know why. The Woolsey Fire was horrific and scary and exacerbated by climate change.

A couple members of the Agoura Hills City Council also met the Mayor of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and heard the devastation that a climate-exacerbated hurricane Maria wrought upon her city and territory. Over three thousand people lost their lives and we know that is just a drop in the bucket compared to what is coming.

No matter how small our community, it is vitally important that we do what we can as soon as we can to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. And every other little town throughout the country and the world needs to do its part as well. If we take this step tonight and move to 100% default energy, it will encourage other cities around here to do the same.

At my house, we have taken on the larger financial burden of installing solar panels on our home. Asking folks who can to add \$9 dollars per hundred dollars to their bill seems like a small doable step. If people are in financial straits, which many are right now, they can opt out or receive no increase for doing 100%.

I have to look my kids in the eyes every morning and tell them, knowing what I know about the depth and the breadth of the climate disaster, what can I do for them today. Today, I submitted my public comment to you and, on their behalf, I strongly urge you to adopt a default rate of 100% tonight.

Thank you.