



2021 Legislative and Regulatory Policy Platform

Overview and Purpose

The Clean Power Alliance (CPA) Legislative and Regulatory Policy Platform (Platform) serves as a guide to the CPA Board of Directors and CPA staff in their advocacy efforts and engagement on policy matters of interest to CPA. The Platform allows both Board members and staff to pursue actions at the local, regional, state and federal legislative and regulatory levels in a consistent manner and with the understanding that they are pursuing actions in the best interest of the organization and its mission, its member agencies, and its customers. The Platform also enables the organization to move swiftly to respond to events in Sacramento (Legislative / Executive) and San Francisco (California Public Utilities Commission) and provides guidance to the Executive Director on the support or oppose positions that should be taken on legislative and regulatory matters that come before the California Community Choice Association (CalCCA) Board of Directors.

All CPA positions on individual bills are presented to the Board for approval, except during times of urgency as provided under the protocols approved by the CPA Board of Directors on June 7, 2018, that allow the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Legislative & Regulatory Committee Chair, and Executive Director to act on behalf of the organization in urgent advocacy matters.

Policy Principles

The Legislative and Regulatory Policy Platform is centered around four basic principles:

1. Protecting CPA's local control and autonomy by its members, especially with regards to finances, power procurement, reliability, and local customer programs.
2. Ensuring equal treatment of unbundled and bundled customers by the CPUC and other state agencies.

3. Supporting recognition that electricity is an essential service, and that CPA should have the ability to set electric rates and offer programmatic services that are affordable and inclusive for all.
4. Pursuing environmental initiatives that exceed prescriptive State mandates, promote the growth in renewable energy capacity at the local level, encourage clean energy adoption by CPA customers, and reduce fossil fuel dependency.

Policy Platform

1) Local Control, Finance, and Power Procurement

CPA will pursue legislative and regulatory activity that:

- a. Supports the authority of CPA and its Board to retain local control over its activities;
- b. Supports the protection of CPA's procurement autonomy;
- c. Supports the ability of CPA to maintain control over its financial decisions;
- d. Supports the ability of CPA to expand its service offerings and activities in response to a changing energy landscape;
- e. Supports the ability of CPA to access state incentives for its customers and member agencies; and
- f. Supports the ability of CPA to enhance reliability through accelerating the deployment of energy storage resources, fully valuing behind the meter energy resources, and expanding the use of demand response.

2) Equitable Treatment of CPA Customers

CPA will pursue legislative and regulatory activity that:

- a. Supports the equal treatment of unbundled and bundled customers by the CPUC and the legislature; and
- b. Supports the development of a State regulatory environment that is empowering for community energy providers.

3) Ratepayer Advocacy and Social Justice

CPA will pursue legislative and regulatory activity that:

- a. Supports the protection of all ratepayers, particularly low-income customers, disadvantaged communities, and other vulnerable populations in CPA service territory;

- b. Supports supplier diversity in CPA's contracting activities and through women-owned, minority-owned, disabled-veteran-owned, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender owned business enterprises;
- c. Supports workforce development with a focus on new stable, well-paying local jobs, and participation in a just transition to a low-carbon economy;
- d. Supports the ability for CPA to set appropriate benchmarks for performance measurement using accepted industry standards; and
- e. Supports increased access to clean energy technologies, clean energy and contracting jobs, and clean energy opportunities for low-income people and communities of color in CPA service territory.

4) Environmental Leadership

CPA will pursue legislative and regulatory activity that:

- a. Supports the ability of CPA and its members to meet and exceed State goals for greenhouse gas emissions reductions (e.g. encouraging movement towards 100% renewable energy), climate action planning, and fossil fuel independence;
- b. Supports the ability for CPA to promote growth in renewable energy capacity, resiliency and electrification at the local level, in a way that is equitable for all customers;
- c. Supports the ability for CPA to promote electrification of the transportation sector, and to help implement Executive Order N-79-20 that bans the sale of new internal combustion engines in light duty vehicles by 2035; and
- d. Supports the ability for CPA to promote electrification and the reduction of natural gas usage in the building sector.