What is Power Share Community Solar?

Power Share Community Solar is a program offered by Clean Power Alliance to provide customers access to clean power, who may otherwise not have access to solar technologies. Power Share will provide income-qualified customers in under-resourced communities with 100% renewable energy. When qualified customers sign up for Power Share Community Solar, they will receive a 20% discount on their total monthly electric bill.

How does Community Solar work?

There are four main roles in the Community Solar program:

- Community Sponsor
- Project Site
- Solar Developer
- Low-Income Customers*

Community Sponsors are organizations that are needed to spread the word to the community about Power Share, educate residents, and help people sign up. The Community Sponsor can utilize power from the project, and will receive a 20% discount on its electric bill, while providing an important service to residents. A Community Sponsor can also host a project as a Project Site (see the example below).

Project Sites are the locations where solar arrays are located. The solar panels may be located on a rooftop, carport, ground-mount, or other configuration. The Developer will work closely with the site to plan and construct a project. Sites can be (but are not limited to) commercial buildings, schools, municipal buildings, etc.

Solar Developers are private companies that manage all technical aspects related to solar installations. They oversee permitting, negotiate equipment purchases, and develop projects to start generating electricity. Developers work with sites to find an optimal solution to producing electricity for each site and for the community.

Customers in the local community utilize power from the project and receive a 20% discount on top of other bill discounts they may already receive, including CARE or FERA. The 20% Power Share discount will be applied to the customer’s already discounted CARE or FERA rate, for a total bill discount of approximately 35% – 45%.

What are the benefits to being a Community Sponsor?

Community Sponsors play a critical role in educating the community about the environmental and financial benefits of Power Share. Power Share was developed to help customers who are in need socio-economically.
Community Sponsors help CPA reach out to impact the community. Sponsoring Community Solar projects offers many benefits to both customers and community organizations. Under-resourced communities will benefit from lower emissions, local projects, and access to solar power at no cost.

The Community Sponsor, in addition to helping communities obtain access to clean power, will receive up to 25% of a sponsored project’s clean power capacity. The Community Sponsor will also receive a 20% discount on their electric bill for a property signed up to use solar power provided by the project. Please note that the Community Sponsor must be a CPA customer.

**How can Community Sponsors help their community?**

Community Sponsors help spread the word to qualified community residents! CPA has created resources for Community Sponsors to utilize to help customers sign up, including:

- Sample Emails to Customers
- Newsletter/Email content
- Social Media posts & Website Content
- Digital Banners/Graphics
- Postcards
- Program Resources translated in Spanish & Mandarin

CPA will provide an Enrollment Guide that includes detailed step-by-step instructions to assist Community Sponsors with sign-ups, and staff will be available to support enrollment activities.

**Which customers are eligible?**

Customers must be served by Clean Power Alliance and reside within an under-served community, sometimes referred to as a Disadvantaged Community. They must also be eligible for either the CARE or FERA low-income programs. If a customer does not wish to sign up for CARE or FERA discounts, they can still apply for Power Share.

**What are the benefits to customer?**

Customers who sign up for Power Share receive 100% clean energy, combined with a 20% discount on their bill every month. In addition to contributing positively to the environment, they will also receive a financial benefit.

**How do customers sign up?**

Customers are able to check eligibility and enroll in Power Share on a first come, first served basis using one of the following methods:

- Visit CPA’s web site: cleanpoweralliance.org/power-share/
- Call CPA Customer Service at 888-585-3788
- Email CPA at customerservice@cleanpoweralliance.org for assistance

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1 For Power Share, customers must reside within a Disadvantaged Community (DACs) as defined by CalEPA as the top 25 percent of census tracts based on income and pollution burden factors. Interested customers will also need to qualify based on their household income for this program.
Applicants not currently enrolled in the California Alternate Rates for Energy Program (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA) will be directed to Southern California Edison Customer Service to enroll prior to Power Share enrollment. Once CPA’s program capacity is reached, eligible applicants will be placed on a wait list, and will be enrolled as capacity becomes available.

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