South Pasadena Default Rate Change

South Pasadena is going 100% Green Power!

Starting in October 2022, 100% clean and renewable energy from sources like the sun and wind will power businesses in South Pasadena. This will reduce 18 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions annually, which is like planting 135,000 trees or taking 1,800 cars off the road. Thank you, South Pasadena businesses for joining local residents, who have been receiving 100% Green Power since 2019.

What You Need to Know

What does this mean for you and your electricity bill?

Using renewable energy helps reduce the impacts of climate change. Because clean energy costs a little bit more, a typical bill for small businesses will go up by approximately 3%, or about $3 for every $100 of electricity charges. You could offset this cost by turning up your thermostat a couple of degrees in the summer. Clean Power Alliance supports access to clean energy for all and offers many customer assistance programs. In fact, one-third of our customers receive some sort of bill assistance.

You still have the Power of Choice with CPA. Regardless of your community’s default rate selection, you can always switch to one of Clean Power Alliance’s other two rate options, Lean Power or Clean Power, or opt-out and select Southern California Edison as your electricity provider. The default change does not affect any customer who has already taken action to change their CPA service. So, if you have already opted up, down, or out, your rate plan will not change.

If you want to stay on your current rate plan, just give CPA a call at 888-585-3788 or email customerservice@cleanpoweralliance.org. You can learn more about other rate options at cleanpoweralliance.org/compare.
1. Why would my city make this decision?

Because CPA is organized around local control and choice, cities and counties have the opportunity to change their community’s default rate on an annual basis. One common reason is to increase the amount of renewable energy being provided to their community in order to protect the health of their residents and future generations by reducing their community’s harmful emissions.

2. I am so confused about my bill. If CPA is my provider, why does SCE send me my bill?

We understand. Southern California Edison (SCE) sends your monthly bill, which includes your SCE charges for electricity delivery followed by your Clean Power Alliance charges for electricity supply/generation. Please note that Clean Power Alliance is NOT an added fee; it simply replaces SCE’s supply/generation charges. In fact, CPA only accounts for about one-third of your monthly bill.

3. Am I paying more with CPA than if I were an SCE customer?

CPA’s 100% Green Power is currently about 3% more than SCE’s standard rates, for nearly three times the amount of renewable energy. You can also choose Clean Power, which provides more renewable energy than SCE for about the same price as SCE, or you can choose Lean Power, which provides about the same amount of renewable energy as SCE at a 1% discount to SCE rates. While these rate comparisons can fluctuate over time depending on market conditions and other variables, CPA is committed to keeping our rates competitive and making clean energy accessible and affordable for everyone.

4. What if I’ve already opted down to Lean or Clean, do I have to do it again?

If you’ve already taken action to choose a rate, you will remain on that rate. You do not need to take any additional action unless you want to switch to a different rate plan.

5. How can I save money? I cannot afford a rate increase.

We realize that many of our customers face continuing economic challenges. You have some options:

- CPA offers three rate options: Lean, Clean and 100% Green. If you’re looking for the lowest price, Lean Power is the least expensive and will save you about 1% compared to SCE.
- You may qualify for a customer assistance program that can help you manage your electricity bill. Visit cleanpoweralliance.org/CPAbillhelp to learn more.

6. What is the value of this cleaner energy choice?

All three of our rate products provide excellent value at competitive rates. In addition to cleaner energy choices, with CPA you are investing in your community because our revenue goes back into local programs that benefit our customers and communities while creating green jobs.

7. Will having 100% Green Power affect the reliability of my power supply?

No. Clean Power Alliance buys and puts on the grid an amount of renewable energy sufficient to meet the demand of our customers on an annual basis, while the California Independent Systems Operator (CAISO) maintains the state’s grid to ensure reliability of electricity on a 24/7 basis. To support grid reliability and the high levels of renewable energy demand from our customers, CPA is a leader in investing in energy storage, which can discharge renewable energy during the evening. We also invest in 24/7 renewable resources like geothermal energy.

8. Tell me more about my options.

With CPA, you have choices:

Lean Power

Make your community a better place with CPA’s Lean Power. Lean Power is the most affordable way to get clean, reliable power, while also putting revenue back into your home and community through customer programs, community resilience projects, and job creation. Beginning in 2023, 40% of Lean Power comes from renewable energy sources. Lean Power saves you about $1 per $100 of electricity charges compared to Clean Power.

Clean Power

This option allows you to receive more clean energy (50% renewable energy beginning in 2023).

100% Green Power

CPA’s 100% Green Power comes from 100% renewable energy sources – like wind, solar and geothermal. You are making the world a better place by paying a small premium – about $3 more per $100 of electricity charges - for energy that has zero emissions and supports green jobs and a green economy.

You can always switch between CPA rate plans or you can opt out of CPA service at any time by contacting CPA. We hope you will stay with CPA on 100% Green Power or another option that suits you, but you have additional choices:

Choice 1: Return to SCE service as soon as possible. Under this option, you will be subject to SCE’s transitional bundled service (TBS) rates during your first six months back with SCE. TBS rates are based on current electricity market rates, which could be lower or higher than SCE’s standard bundled rates and are subject to change by SCE throughout the six-month period. After six months, you will be returned to SCE’s standard rates. For more information on TBS rates, contact SCE at 800-974-2356 or visit sce.com. We urge caution in selecting this option because this option could result in rates spikes as you will be subject to the prevailing market conditions, which include higher rates during the summer months. Based on our experience with energy prices last year, we do not suggest this option.

Choice 2: Return to SCE service after six months advance notice to SCE. Under this option, you will continue to receive service from Clean Power Alliance for the six-month period. After six months, you will be transferred to SCE’s standard bundled rates and you will not be subject to TBS rates. If you would like to change your choice at any time during the six months and return to SCE service as soon as possible, at which point you would be subject to TBS for the remainder of your six-month period, please contact Clean Power Alliance at 888-585-3788. Keep in mind that if Clean Power Alliance lowers or changes its rates, even during the six-month waiting period, you will not be able to return to Clean Power Alliance until 12 months after you have started to receive service from SCE. With either choice, Clean Power Alliance will process your return to SCE service.

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If you decide Clean Power Alliance is not the right choice for you or your business at this time, you may opt out of one or more of your accounts by visiting cleanpoweralliance.org/opt-out, calling us at 888-585-3788 (TTY 323-214-1296), or by email at customerservice@cleanpoweralliance.org. Clean Power Alliance will not charge you any fees for opting out.