

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
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[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
State Capitol, Room 5050  
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 17, 2021

**Re: Senate Bill 612 (Portantino): Ratepayer Equity—SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Portantino:

The City of Albany writes to express our support of Senate Bill 612 (Portantino). The City of Albany helped to establish East Bay Community Energy in 2016 for the purpose of delivering cleaner electricity to the residents and business in Alameda County. SB 612 would help the City of Albany and EBCE maintain the commitment we made to the community to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and maintain rates competitive with PG&E. The bill would support reduced utility bills by maximizing the benefits of energy already purchased and would provide EBCE's customers with the clean energy benefits from the resources purchased years ago on their behalf.

SB 612 (Portantino) would ensure that EBCE's customers have the ability to access their proportionate share of the benefits of PG&E legacy contracts they are already paying for. It would also ensure that PG&E manage its legacy contracts to maximize their value for PG&E and EBCE customers alike. At a time when our communities are facing unprecedented economic hardships, it is more important than ever that we reduce utility bills by maximizing the benefits of energy already purchased.

While legacy resources produce high costs, they also produce valuable products such as renewable energy, hydroelectric energy, and resource adequacy. Though all customers bear cost responsibility for these legacy resources, community choice aggregator (CCA) customers do not have access to any of the beneficial attributes they are paying for. This inequity has been long recognized by regulators and stakeholders. In 2017, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) opened a proceeding intended to address this issue, among others. However, the CPUC has taken no action towards

adopting a consensus solution to resolve the inequity, which increases CCA procurement costs because of the uncertainty around future resource access. SB 612 (Portantino) will address this inequity by providing fair and equal access to the benefits of legacy resources for all customers.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you and your staff on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ge'Nell Gary". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ge'Nell Gary  
Mayor  
City of Albany

Cc: The Honorable Ben Hueso, Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications  
Nidia Bautista, Chief Consultant, Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications