

# Clean Energy Alliance

## JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

### INCLUSIVE & SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE POLICY

The Clean Energy Alliance (CEA) Board of Directors desires to establish a policy that supports local jobs, sustainable and inclusive workforce opportunities, local economic sustainability, and diversity through contracting for power sources, procuring goods and services, and implementing hiring initiatives where appropriate, without limiting fair and open competition for projects or programs implemented by CEA. For the purposes of this policy, “local” shall mean San Diego County and any additional areas served by CEA.

#### CEA Staff

CEA relies on its employees to provide clean, cost-effective, alternative energy to its customers. These customers live in diverse communities and an inclusive workforce of staff who reflect and are invested in these communities allows CEA to serve them more effectively. An inclusive staff also provides good jobs for people from diverse communities.

To help maintain and strengthen CEA’s inclusive staff, CEA will:

1. Engage in broad outreach efforts in diverse communities, including disadvantaged and low-income communities, to ensure a diverse pool of candidates for open positions;
2. Provide fair compensation that aligns with regional market indicators for compensation levels for each position;
3. Be transparent about these practices and lessons learned; and
4. Provide contact information for staff who can answer questions about this policy.

#### Supply Chain

CEA also strives for inclusion and transparency in its supply chain. Where and from whom CEA purchases good and services have important consequences for businesses, customers, and their communities. Where appropriate, an inclusive and transparent supply chain is an important driver for successful delivery of CEA’s services to its customers, and of fair and equitable economic development generally.

Where appropriate, and without limiting fair and open competition, to support an inclusive and transparent supply chain, CEA will:

1. Use local businesses and provide fair compensation in the purchase of services and supplies;

2. Proactively seek services from local businesses that are taking steps to protect the environment;
3. Engage in efforts to reach diverse communities to ensure an inclusive pool of potential suppliers;
4. Collect information from suppliers and contractors on the inclusivity of their workforce;
5. Include questions about supplier inclusivity in requests for proposals (RFPs) for services;
6. Encourage reporting from developers and vendors on inclusivity in business ownership and staff;
7. Be transparent about these practices and lessons learned; and
8. Provide contact information for staff who can answer questions about this policy.

### **Inclusive Business Practices**

To fulfill its goals of providing a range of energy product and programs, available to all CEA communities and customers, that best serve their needs and their local communities, and support local sustainability efforts, CEA will:

1. Provide information in the multiple languages commonly spoken in CEA's service area (including mailers, tabling materials, customer service, call center, workshops and outreach events, advertisements, and other means of customer engagement);
2. Conduct marketing and outreach in diverse communities with multi-lingual materials and/or speakers, including attending multi-cultural community events as appropriate, to increase awareness of CEA's services and programs;
- 3.
4. Share information about activities and initiatives that promote inclusion, access, and diverse engagement in the community.

### **Non-Discrimination Pledge**

CEA will not discriminate, and will require in its contracts with suppliers that they will not discriminate, on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability (physical or mental), sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or domestic partner status, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, familial or parental status (including pregnancy), medical condition (cancer-related), military service, or genetic information.

### **Sustainable Workforce**

Support of local businesses, fair compensation, apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs that create employment opportunities, without limiting fair and open competition, are important components of building and sustaining healthy and sustainable communities. It is in the interest of CEA to provide fair compensation and sustainable workforce opportunities, within a framework of fair and open competition and the promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction.

CEA recognizes the importance of locally-generated renewable energy (local is defined as within the San Diego County region) in assuring that California is provided with (1) adequate supplies of renewable energy for economic growth, (2) sustained local job opportunities and job creation, and (3) effective means to reduce the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions. CEA also recognizes the opportunities that energy efficiency programs provide for local workforce training and employment.

CEA encourages fair compensation in direct hiring, renewable development projects, energy efficiency programs and in procurement of CEA services and supplies. CEA also encourages use of State of California approved apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship training programs in construction craft occupations to foster long-term, fairly compensated employment opportunities for program graduates.

Where appropriate, without limiting fair and open competition, CEA will pursue the following objectives:

1. Support for and direct use of local businesses;
2. Support for and direct use of green and sustainable businesses;
3. Encourage the use of skilled and trained workers who receive fair compensation;
4. Encourage the use of State of California approved apprenticeship programs, and pre-apprenticeship programs within CEA's service territory.

### **CEA Power Purchase Agreements with Third Parties**

CEA will encourage the submission of information from respondents to any bidding and/or RFP/RFQ process regarding planned efforts by project developers and their contractors to achieve the following goals:

- Employ workers and use businesses from the San Diego county area.
- Employ properly licensed contractors and California Certified electricians.
- Utilize local apprentices, particularly graduates of San Diego County pre-apprenticeship programs.
- Pay workers prevailing wage for each craft, classification and type of work performed.
- Provide workers compensation coverage to on-site workers.
- Support and use State of California approved apprenticeship programs.

Relevant information submitted by proposers will be used to evaluate potential impact on local jobs and workforce of the planned project.

### **CEA Owned Generation Projects**

Each construction contractor or subcontractor performing work on any CEA-owned project is encouraged to use local labor and apprenticeship programs and follow fair compensation practices including proper assignment of work to crafts that traditionally perform the work. Contractors and subcontractors shall pay at least prevailing rate of wages, as defined in Article 2 (commencing with Section 1770) of Chapter 1 of Part 7 of Division 2 of the California Labor Code and encouraged to use a skilled and trained workforce, as defined in Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the California Public Contract Code.

### **CEA Feed-In Tariff Projects**

CEA will encourage construction contractors or subcontractors performing work on any CEA Feed-In Tariff project utilize local businesses and local apprenticeship programs, and fair compensation practices including proper assignment of work to crafts that traditionally perform the work.

CEA encourages contractors and subcontractors performing work on any CEA Feed-In-Tariff project to pay at least prevailing rate of wages, as defined in Article 2 (commencing with Section 1770) of Chapter 1 of Part 7 of Division 2 of the California Labor Code and encouraged to use a skilled and trained workforce, as defined in Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the California Public Contract Code.

### **CEA Energy Efficiency Projects**

CEA will strive to support local businesses and apprenticeship programs, in the implementation of its energy efficiency programs. CEA will encourage construction contractors or subcontractors performing work on any CEA energy efficiency program utilize local businesses and apprenticeship programs and fair compensation practices including proper assignment of work to crafts that traditionally perform the work.

### **Union Neutrality Pledge**

CEA will remain neutral regarding whether its employees choose to join or support labor unions and will not interfere with decisions by its contractors' and suppliers' employees about whether to join or support labor unions.