Central Coast Community Energy

PLUGGED IN
August 2026

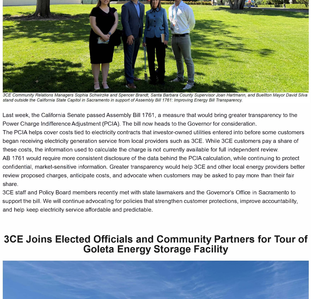
Power for Good

Welcome to this edition of 3CE's *Plugged In* newsletter! At 3CE, our work starts with serving our customers and strengthening the communities we call home. This month, we are advocating in Sacramento for greater transparency in electricity-bill charges, advancing reliable local clean-energy resources, and creating new ways for businesses and public agencies to participate in the clean-energy transition. In this edition, learn about the latest on Assembly Bill 1761 and 3CE's efforts to give customers and local energy providers better tools to review electricity-bill charges. We also share an update on an energy storage facility Goleta, opportunities for local and diverse businesses to connect with 3CE, and the new EV Launchpad Technical Assistance Program to help communities plan and implement transportation-electrification projects.

In this newsletter, you'll find:

- **3CE Helps Push Energy Bill Transparency Legislation Forward**
- **3CE Tours Goleta Energy Storage Facility with Local Leaders**
- **Business Opportunities on the Central Coast**
- **EV Launchpad: Technical Assistance for Transportation Electrification**
- **3CE in the Community**
- **Upcoming Meetings**

Bill Update: More Transparency for Electricity Customers



3CE Community Relations Managers Sophia Schlender and Spencer Brandt, Santa Barbara County Supervisor Joan Hartmann, and Buellton Mayor David Sima stand outside the California State Capitol in Sacramento in support of Assembly Bill 1761, Improving Energy Bill Transparency.

Last week, the California Senate passed Assembly Bill 1761, a measure that would bring greater transparency to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA). The bill now heads to the Governor for consideration.

The PCIA helps cover costs tied to electricity contracts that investor-owned utilities entered into before some customers began receiving electricity generation service from local providers such as 3CE. While 3CE customers pay a share of these costs, the information used to calculate the charge is not currently available for full independent review.

AB 1761 would require more consistent disclosure of the data behind the PCIA calculation, while continuing to protect confidential, market-sensitive information. Greater transparency would help 3CE and other local energy providers better review proposed charges, anticipate costs, and advocate when customers may be asked to pay more than their fair share.

3CE staff and Policy Board members recently met with state lawmakers and the Governor's Office in Sacramento to support the bill. We will continue advocating for policies that strengthen customer protections, improve accountability, and help keep electricity service affordable and predictable.

3CE Joins Elected Officials and Community Partners for Tour of Goleta Energy Storage Facility



Central Coast Community Energy joined Santa Barbara County and City of Santa Barbara leaders, GridScc staff, environmental and labor representatives for a tour of the Goleta Energy Storage facility.

On August 19, Central Coast Community Energy joined a tour of GridScc's Goleta Energy Storage facility alongside Santa Barbara County Supervisor Roy Lee, Supervisor Laura Capps, Santa Barbara City Councilmember Eric Friedman, Santa Barbara City College Trustee Kyle Richards, and representatives from environmental and labor organizations. The Goleta facility is the largest battery storage project in Santa Barbara County. It is a 60 MW / 160 MWh system built on a 2.5-acre commercial lot, using 44 fully integrated Tesla battery systems manufactured in Lathrop, California. It interconnects at 66 kV to the SCE Isla Vista substation and can serve roughly 30,000 households through hours of peak demand. Construction employed an average of 40 full-time tradespeople and accounted for about 35,000 labor hours. The tour covered how the facility operates day to day, the safety systems and emergency response planning in place, and what the project means for regional reliability. Santa Barbara communities from Point Conception to Lake Casitas draw power from a single high-voltage transmission line, which leaves the area exposed to outages from wildfire, mudslides, and earthquakes. Storage sited locally helps stabilize the grid and reduces the region's reliance on nearby fossil fuel peaker plants.

3CE Invites Local Businesses to Connect and Grow



Local vendors provide a wide range of goods and services that help support 3CE's work in the communities it serves.

3CE is committed to investing in the Central Coast communities we serve, not only through clean-energy programs, but also by creating opportunities for local, small, and diverse businesses to work with us.

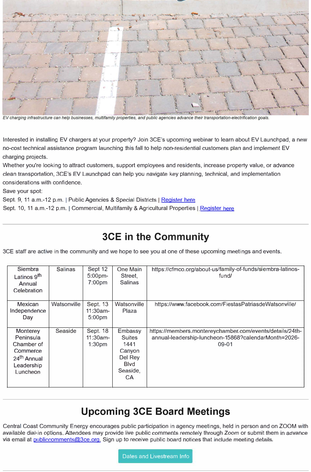
As part of its commitment to supplier diversity, 3CE submits an annual report to the California Public Utilities Commission. Previous 3CE Supplier Diversity Reports have received an "Exemplary" rating from the CPUC, reflecting the agency's work to expand engagement with diverse business enterprises.

Local businesses can also join 3CE's Local Vendor Registry. Registration helps 3CE learn about the goods and services available in our service area and allows businesses to receive notifications when relevant Requests for Proposals become available. 3CE's small and local business preference policy further supports efforts to keep economic opportunities in the communities we serve.

To help businesses learn more, 3CE will host Unlock Business Opportunities with 3CE, a free webinar on September 8 at 12:00 p.m. The session will cover the CPUC Supplier Diversity Program, certification through the Supplier Clearinghouse, 3CE's Local Vendor Registry, and commercial energy rebates and incentives.

Register for the webinar or learn more about the 3CE Local Vendor Registry.

Upcoming Webinars to Learn about 3CE's New EV Charging Technical Assistance Program Launching This Fall



EV charging infrastructure can help businesses, multifamily properties, and public agencies advance their transportation-electrification goals.

Interested in installing EV chargers at your property? Join 3CE's upcoming webinar to learn about EV Launchpad, a new no-cost technical assistance program launching this fall to help non-residential customers plan and implement EV charging projects.

Whether you're looking to attract customers, support employees and residents, increase property value, or advance clean transportation, 3CE's EV Launchpad can help you navigate key planning, technical, and implementation considerations with confidence.

Save your spot:

Sept. 9, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Public Agencies & Special Districts | Register here

Sept. 10, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Commercial, Multifamily & Agricultural Properties | Register here

3CE in the Community

3CE staff are active in the community and we hope to see you at one of these upcoming meetings and events.

Sisembra Latinos 8th Annual Celebration	Salinas	Sept. 12 5:00pm-7:00pm	One Main Street, Salinas	https://cfmco.org/about-us/family-of-funds/sisembra-latinos-fund/
Mexican Independence Day	Watsonville	Sept. 13 11:30am-5:00pm	Watsonville Plaza	https://www.facebook.com/FiestasPatriasdeWatsonville/
Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce 24th Annual Leadership Luncheon	Seaside	Sept. 18 11:30am-1:30pm	Embassy Suites 1441 Canyon Del Rey Blvd Seaside, CA	https://members.montereychamber.com/events/details/2-24th-annual-leadership-luncheon-15868?calendarMonth=2026-09-01

Upcoming 3CE Board Meetings

Central Coast Community Energy encourages public participation in agency meetings, held in person and on ZOOM with available dial-in options. Attendees may provide live public comments remotely through Zoom or submit them in advance via email at public@3cenergy.org. Sign up to receive public board notices that include meeting details.

Dates and Livestream Info

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