Central Coast Community Energy

# PLUGGED IN
# October 2026

Power for Good

**Welcome to this month's edition of 3CE's *Plugged In* newsletter!**

**In this newsletter, you'll find:** As the days grow shorter and jack-o'-lanterns light up the night, we're looking ahead to a bright future for our communities. In this issue, see how your feedback is helping shape new energy programs, join the conversation at our upcoming community workshop, and learn how we're connecting with small, local, and diverse businesses. From new ideas to new partnerships, your community is at the heart of what comes next.

Wishing you a safe and happy Halloween!


- **Powerful New Programs, Shaped by Our Customers**
- **3CE Attends Small-Business Forum**
- **3CE in the Community**
- **Upcoming Meetings**


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## Your Input Helps Shape What's Next for 3CE




*Customers and stakeholders gather for a Community Workshop in Watsonville in November 2024.*

Since beginning service in 2018, 3CE has invested $55 million in the communities it serves through energy program rebates for residential, commercial, and agricultural customers. Rebates are also available to the cities and counties that make up 3CE's 35 member agencies.

To ensure that 3CE's electrification rebates and incentives meet our customers' needs, the agency invites community members to participate in public workshops that help shape the design of future Energy Programs. Upcoming workshops are planned for November 30 in Salinas (see below for registration details) and December 17 in San Luis Obispo (details to come).

When customers shared their ideas at 3CE's 2024 community workshops, we listened. That feedback helped shape our upcoming Virtual Home Assessments Pilot Program, one of two new efforts designed to help customers manage energy costs and make better use of resources already in our communities.

The new Home Energy Assessments Pilot, in partnership with Maiven Energy, offers customers a simple, easy-to-use online tool to evaluate their home's energy use and identify opportunities for electrification and efficiency upgrades. Participants receive customized reports with recommendations for home efficiency and electrification upgrades, estimated utility bill impacts, greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and applicable rebate programs. To support customers through the process, Maiven offers multiple channels to connect with their expert staff, including access to personalized guidance and assistance navigating the home electrification journey.

3CE's planned Virtual Power Plant Program will give eligible customers with solar-paired home batteries a way to support grid reliability and earn incentives. During periods of high energy demand, participating batteries will send stored energy back to the grid. Customers will receive an upfront enrollment rebate and ongoing performance payments with the flexibility to opt out of events as needed and retain backup power for their homes. By connecting individual batteries, the pilot will help support the grid using equipment already in our communities.

👉 *We Want to Hear from You! Join Our Workshop in November.*

What's working for you, and what would you like to see next? Join us in Salinas on November 30 for the first in a series of community workshops to help shape 3CE's Energy Programs.

We're developing our one-, three-, and five-year plans, and we want customers and community stakeholders to help guide the way. Share your experiences, ideas, and priorities so we can better serve our communities — now and in the years ahead.

A light dinner will be provided. Bring your ideas. We want to hear from you!

**Date:** November 30, 2026
**Time:** 5:30pm - 7:30pm
**Location:** Cesar Chavez Library

**Register for the workshop**

Want your voice to count even more? Consider getting involved with **3CE's Community Advisory Council**. Your passion for renewable energy and your community can help guide our work. Click here to learn more.

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## 3CE Connects with Small, Local, and Diverse Businesses




*Senior Customer Accounts Manager Steven Russo answers questions at 3CE's information table.*

3CE staff joined the California Public Utilities Commission's 24th Annual Supplier Diversity En Banc on October 1 in South San Francisco. Under the theme "The Next Era of Supplier Diversity," the event offered an opportunity to connect with local vendors and expand our network of small, local, and diverse businesses.

At 3CE's table, staff introduced attendees to our agency and made connections for future business opportunities. A simple giveaway also proved a hit: fresh bananas sporting 3CE QR-code stickers had real "a-peel" for table visitors!

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## 3CE in the Community

3CE sponsors many events in our local communities – we hope to see you there!

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| Holiday Food and Fund Drive | Watsonville | Nov. 5 - Jan. 15 | Online |
| 2026 AWWEE Conference | Monterey | Nov. 4 | Portola Hotel & Spa |
| Monterey Bay Economic Partnership State of the Region | Monterey | Nov. 6 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM | CSU Monterey Bay University Center |
| Wild & Free Film Festival | Goleta | Nov. 6-8 | Camino Real Cinemas |

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## 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 publiccomments@3ce.org. Sign up to receive public board notices that include meeting details.

Dates and Livestream Info

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