



# Community Benefits Grant: Informational Webinar

August 9, 2023



# Agenda

- ⚡ CPA Overview
- ⚡ About The Community Benefits Grant
- ⚡ Reporting Requirements
- ⚡ Q & A





# Who is Calpine Energy Solutions?

- ⚡ Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC, is a San Diego based organization, founded to support customer choice in energy
- ⚡ Helped launch California's first Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program in 2010.
- ⚡ Committed to re-investing into the communities and partners that we support



# Who is Clean Power Alliance?

- ⚡ Clean Power Alliance is a JPA between 30\* cities and the unincorporated counties of Los Angeles and Ventura.
- ⚡ CPA provides clean energy at competitive rates to approximately one million residential and commercial customer accounts, representing three million people across both Los Angeles and Ventura counties.
- ⚡ CPA provides 100% renewable energy to nearly 300,000 customers, which is more than any other provider in the entire nation. This number continues to grow and is expected to reach 750,000 customers by 2024.



\*The cities of Monrovia, Hermosa Beach, and Santa Paula will launch service in March 2024



# CPA – Investing In Our Communities

CPA invests in its communities in a variety of ways:

- ⚡ Local Programs
- ⚡ Workforce Development initiatives
- ⚡ Scholarships and Fellowships
- ⚡ Community Grants



# Community Benefits Grant

- ⚡ Now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle, the Community Benefits Grant provides funding to organizations that help advance clean energy, sustainability, and resiliency.
- ⚡ Eligible organizations must be IRS-designated 501©3 nonprofit(s).
- ⚡ Funding can be used for a specific project, program, or general operations
- ⚡ Calpine awards funding and collaborates with CPA on the grant guidelines and to promote the program. Both work together to assess applications.





# 2022 Awardees



**Merito Foundation (\$25,260)** – Funds will be used to train eight middle school and high school science teachers from Ventura Unified School District to instruct approximately 1,000 students in the adoption of the Merito Foundation's curriculum titled 'Energy Efficiency to Mitigate Climate Change and Ocean Acidification (EECCOA) Activity Guide' by March 2023.



**Nyeland Promise (\$20,000)** – Funds will be used to develop and implement a multilingual (English, Spanish, and Mixteco) initiative to provide linguistically and culturally appropriate messaging to help residents reduce their energy usage during periods of peak energy.



**Pando Populus (\$23,000)** – Funding will go toward Pando Days, a project-centered learning program for Southland colleges and universities focused on implementing county sustainability goals. Participating instructors dedicate a full course, studio, or lab during the fall term toward developing solutions to community sustainability challenges.



**Sustainable Claremont (\$9,500)** – Funding will support four clean energy interns to assist with public dialogs and social media/newsletter outreach.



**Grid Alternatives LA (\$30,000)** – Funds will be used to provide homeowners in CPA service areas (Carson and Whittier) with reroofs, service panel upgrades, and/or any other necessary professional services to allow them to access no-cost solar energy systems.



**Active San Gabriel Valley (\$16,983.60)** – Funding will support clean energy-related operations, including the Healthy Homes program, the Bassett Avocado Heights Advanced Energy Community (BAAEC), and GoSGV Electric Bike Share.



**Climate Action Santa Monica (\$12,500)** – Funding will support the CASM Climate Corps program for education and workforce development. Each year, Climate Corps provides broad training in the global climate issue as well as local systems and actions.



**Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (\$19,334)** – Funds will go toward encouraging local Climate Action Plans and improving the accessibility and content of educational materials on the organization's website. Funds will also go toward the Environmental Voices Academy, which is designed to provide a deeper understanding of local environmental issues and advocacy, as well as expand the network of academy participants.



**Columbia Memorial Space Center (\$25,000)** – Funding will support City of STEM, the largest program promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in Los Angeles. The program is committed to opening equitable access to STEM learning, especially to those members of the public from marginalized and BIPOC communities, and under-resourced neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.



**Community Environmental Council (\$22,240)** – Funds will be used toward general operating support for the expansion of clean energy educational programming throughout Ventura County. This work will focus on electric vehicle and building electrification education and outreach, environmental awareness, and climate literacy.





# Project Highlight 2022:

Pando is a non-profit educational organization developing civic engagement programs that make us better equipped to take our biggest challenges on.

The challenges we address are regional, set by the LA County Board of Supervisors in its ambitious [sustainability plan](#).

We aim to meet them through collaborations across the institutions of civil society: K-12, higher education, professional groups, and faith communities.

- ⚡ Pando Days utilized the grant funds to support 15 colleges and universities. The funds supported semester-long courses, studios, and labs to implement LA County sustainability goals.
- ⚡ The organization highlighted the projects and the student accomplishments at an event with over 200 students, professors, elected officials, and community partners in attendance.
- ⚡ Five projects received special category recognition across four areas of honor (process and inclusion, vision and creativity, design and execution, viability and feasibility).





# Timeline

- ⚡ **August 1, 2023** - The application period opens. Interested organizations may apply at [www.cleanpoweralliance.org/calpinegrant/](http://www.cleanpoweralliance.org/calpinegrant/)
- ⚡ **August 9, 2023, 1-2 p.m.** - Community Benefits Grant Program webinar. Learn more about the process to apply and grant requirements. A link to a recording of the webinar will be made available to applicants when the grant request is submitted.
- ⚡ **October 6, 2023** – The application period closes. All applications and relevant attachments must be submitted by 5 PM on this date for consideration.
- ⚡ **October 9 – October 27, 2023** – Application evaluation period.
- ⚡ **November 3, 2023** – Grant awardees contacted by Calpine.
- ⚡ **Mid November 2023** - Grant funds disbursed by this date.



# Community Benefits Grant Application

- ⚡ Only 501(c)(3) organizations are eligible. Funding for political action committees, trade associations, government entities and political candidates is prohibited.
- ⚡ All applications must include the following:
  - Organization's Description and Mission (500-word max)
  - Cities/Counties the proposed project/funding will support
  - Funding Level requested
  - Funding Category(s)
  - Proposal (1000-word maximum)
  - Budget
- ⚡ Awards will range from \$15,000 to \$30,000 for a one-year grant term (final award amounts will be made by the review committee).



# Criteria

- ⚡ Impact and visibility within CPA's territory
- ⚡ Advancement of clean energy, sustainability, and resiliency
- ⚡ Alignment with 1 or more priority focus areas:
  - Research
  - Environmental and Social Justice Communities\*
  - Workforce Development
  - Education



\* The CPUC identified environmental and social justice communities as those where residents are:

- Predominantly communities of color or low-income;
- Underrepresented in the policy setting or decision-making process;
- Subject to a disproportionate impact from one or more environmental hazards; and
- Likely to experience disparate implementation of environmental regulations and socioeconomic investments in their communities

On the ground, targeted communities typically include but are not limited to:

- Disadvantaged Communities, located in the most environmentally burdened California census tracts, as determined by the 25 percent highest scores (75th percentile) when using the [CalEnviroScreen tool](#);
- All Tribal lands;
- Low-income households (household incomes below 80 percent of the area median income); and
- Low-income census tracts (census tracts where aggregated household incomes are less than 80 percent of area or state median income).





# Reporting Requirements

- ⚡ Awardees of the Community Benefits Grant must agree to provide the following reports:
  1. Eight-month post-award status report, including pictures/videos, a statement of expenditures to date, and a description of the progress of the project.
  2. One-year post-award interview, including pictures and videos, a statement of expenditures, and a project wrap-up summary.
  
- ⚡ Note: during the interview, Calpine Energy Solutions, CPA, and the grant recipient's staff will discuss the status of the granted project and its local impact.



# Budget

- ⚡ Awardees of the Community Benefits Grant must agree to provide the following:

ITEM(S)	BUDGETED (\$)	ACTUAL (TO BE COMPLETED ONE- YEAR POST AWARD)
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b> (HARD COSTS SUCH AS SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, PRINTING, ETC.)		
<b>STAFF LABOR COSTS</b> (NUMBER OF HOURS, JOB TITLES, AND HOURLY RATE OF ALL STAFF THAT WILL WORK ON THE PROJECT)		
<b>OTHER</b> (ANY COSTS THAT DO NOT FIT INTO THE ABOVE CATEGORIES)		



# Questions







**Stay in Touch  
and Learn  
More.**

**For additional questions on grant, contact**  
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