

Energized Communities: Innovation Fund Workshop

September 2025

Agenda

- ⚡ Energized Communities Overview
- ⚡ Innovation Fund Approach
- ⚡ Application, Timeline & Resources
- ⚡ Program Terms, Reporting & Reimbursement Process
- ⚡ Q&A
- ⚡ Additional Resources: CPA's Customer Programs



The Communities We Serve



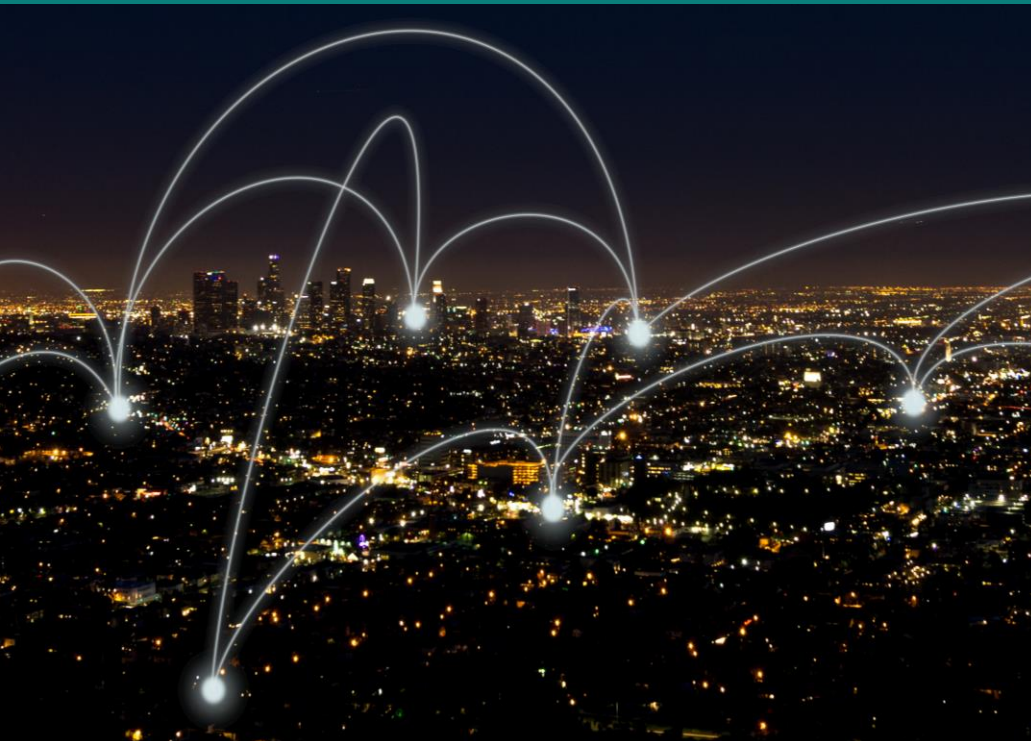
At CPA,
*Change is
Electric*

We believe in a clean energy future that is local, where communities are empowered, and customers are given a choice about the source of their energy.

Energized Communities

Program Objective:

Accelerate implementation of member agencies' sustainability and decarbonization goals through financial support and technical assistance



[cleanpoweralliance.org/
energized-communities](https://cleanpoweralliance.org/energized-communities)

Pathways to Electrification: Streamlined funding & technical assistance to implement electrification projects



Building Electrification Assistance

Funding and/or technical assistance to install electrification measures in municipal facilities



Electric Fleet Transition

Funding, planning, and technical assistance to install charging infrastructure for municipal fleets



Community EV Charging

Funding and technical assistance to support public EV charging at City or County owned sites



Innovation Fund

Member Agencies apply for up to \$250K to support decarbonization projects in their communities

What is the Innovation Fund?



\$2M in competitive funding for CPA's member agencies to apply for up to \$250,000



Selected projects will address a decarbonization challenge in the community



Funding will support projects that focus on resilience and grid management, electrification, and local clean energy procurement



Member agencies may submit applications during each funding cycle; maximum of one project per agency may be selected each cycle, up to \$250K

Goal: To fund decarbonization projects that support local government efforts to address equity needs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and achieve climate and energy goals.



Innovation Fund Project Categories

Projects should focus on one or more categories in alignment with CPA's Board-approved program pillars:

Resilience & Grid Management

Reduce energy use during periods of peak demand and/or support clean energy resiliency projects

Sample projects include:

- ⚡ Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) electric school bus fleet that charges batteries for facility or grid use
- ⚡ Rebates or incentive programs for energy management devices



Electrification

Electrification of the building and transportation sectors

Sample projects include:

- ⚡ Clean transportation options: EV carshare, e-bike share with mobile solar and/or electric charging hub
- ⚡ Electric equipment library for community members to experience appliances and devices



Local Clean Energy Procurement

Support community and customer adoption and installation of clean energy systems

Sample projects include:

- ⚡ Mobile battery electric storage systems
- ⚡ Provide career-track training to build the skills necessary to meet electric utility industry needs



Application, Timeline & Resources

What should my agency keep in mind when applying?

Projects should be outside of the scope of the Pathways to Electrification building, fleet/EV, and community EV charging projects

Proposals should align with at least one of CPA's Board-approved program pillars and include key milestones and project benefits

Projects must be implemented in one of CPA's partner communities, and project sites must be located in CPA's service area and receive electric service from CPA

Applications should demonstrate a reasonable ability to complete the proposed project within two years

Selected agencies will approve a participation agreement with CPA

Consider any requirements to inform or receive approval from Council/Board for submissions

Streamlined application, responses should not exceed 5-pages

Innovation Fund Application Sections

Project Details	Required Sections (Response should not exceed 5 pages)
Project Summary	Summarize the proposed project and how it will address a decarbonization challenge in your community.
Mission Alignment	Describe how the proposal is aligned with CPA's mission and at least one of the Board-approved program pillars (resilience and grid management, electrification, and local procurement).
Feasibility	Confirm ability to complete the project within two years, and include key milestones, budget resources, and partners that may support project completion.
Project Benefits	What are the benefits to the community, the member agency, and/or CPA if this project is selected? Indicate if the project will utilize income-qualified thresholds, or benefit customers enrolled in public assistance programs.
Budget	Provide a quarterly budget and explain why the proposed budget is needed to implement this project. If any additional funding is needed, or expected to complete project, please describe (if applicable).
Metrics	How will you measure the success of this project? List any anticipated quantifiable achievements or results.

Innovation Fund: Scoring Criteria



Mission Alignment

How well does the project align with CPA's decarbonization goals and address at least one of the Board-approved program pillars of resilience and grid management, electrification, and local procurement?

Weighted scoring: 30%



Feasibility

Does the proposal present a reasonable ability to complete the project within two years, with a sufficient budget and other partners as needed?

Weighted scoring: 20%



Project Benefits

Does the project demonstrate a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions or other performance measures that illustrate sustainability improvements in the community?

Weighted scoring: 50%

Project Benefit Considerations:

- Does the project utilize income-qualified thresholds, or benefit customers enrolled in public assistance programs?
- Are there anticipated operational or other community cost savings associated with the project?



Innovation Fund Timeline





CPA support offered during application process

- ⚡ Website with application materials and resources
- ⚡ 1:1 sessions with applicants to provide opportunity for Q&A and application feedback
- ⚡ Two workshops to address Q&A
- ⚡ Online resources include:
 - Application template and guidelines
 - Sample project list
 - Presentation materials



Program Terms, Reporting, & Reimbursement Process

Program Terms: What to Expect

- ⚡ Member agencies will execute a participation agreement with CPA detailing the project scope, budget, and expected milestones
- ⚡ Project sites/program recipients must be enrolled in CPA service, and stay with CPA for the duration of the program to be eligible for program benefits
- ⚡ Funding for projects that involve issuing rebates/incentives to participants can only be directed to CPA customers
- ⚡ Project should be completed within 2 years



Reporting & Reimbursement Process

Reporting:

- ⚡ Attend check-ins every other month and participate in a one-year post award interview
- ⚡ Provide status reports every six months and a project wrap-up summary after completion, subject to CPA's review

Reimbursement:

- ⚡ Verify approved activities and expected budget with CPA before work commences
- ⚡ Submit invoices and/or other documentation to show expenditure of funds, or work completed, on approved activities



Q&A - Discussion

Top 10 Questions

1. How many projects will be awarded?
2. Is the funding distributed on a first-come, first-served basis?
3. What is the evaluation period?
4. When would we hear back about whether our agency is awarded the Innovation Fund?
5. If awarded, what's the earliest that we could begin implementing our project, and what is the spend deadline for the projects that are selected?
6. Is this funding reimbursement-based and would we receive reimbursement within 30-days, similar to the Pathways to Electrification program?
7. What should we do if our project site is not enrolled in CPA service?
8. Can we submit a project that is outside of municipal jurisdiction (e.g. State/utility owned right-of-way)?
9. Can the project providing funding to a non-profit or other community partner to implement or distribute resources in the community?
10. Is there a formal process for partnering with a nonprofit on our application? What if we don't have the partnership formalized by the 10/8 deadline?








Additional Resources

CPA's Customer Programs

Local Customer Programs




Local Resiliency and Grid Management



-  **Power Ready:** Clean energy backup systems for critical facilities
-  **Peak Management Pricing:** Summer bill discounts for reduced
-  **Power Response:** incentives for reducing energy use at times of grid stress usage during peak days
-  **EV SmartCharge:** App to help customers save money by shifting when they charge
-  **Instant AC Savings:** \$300 coupon at participating retailers




Transportation and Buildings Electrification






-  **Reach Code Program for Building & Transportation Electrification:** Support for evaluating & adopting building electrification codes
-  **Energized Communities:** Accelerates community sustainability goals
 - Building Electrification Assistance
 - Electric Fleet Transition Services
 - Community Electric Vehicle Charging
 - Innovation Fund
-  **Energy Team:** Unbiased information on energy upgrades for homes or small businesses from a team of experts

Local Clean Energy Procurement

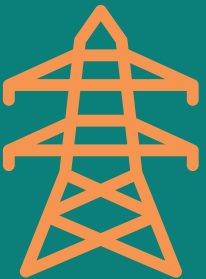


-  **Power Share:** local renewable energy at 20% bill discount for low-income customers
-  **Sun Storage Rebates:** Up to \$2,250 rebate for homeowners who install a solar battery storage system
-  **Solar and Battery Access:** No upfront cost solar and storage systems for qualified customers

-  Residential
-  Commercial
-  Partner Communities



Power Ready



Power Ready Overview

⚡ **CPA's Power Ready program** provides clean energy back-up power systems to municipal and community sites that serve a critical need via an on-site solar and battery storage system. Together, installations function to generate and store renewable energy during normal operations and provide back-up power to preserve critical functions to the sites in times of grid stress and/or power outages.

⚡ **Why Power Ready?** The need for renewable backup power generation is growing as power outages become more common than ever with increased wildfires, frequent Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and increased summer grid emergencies due to heat events.

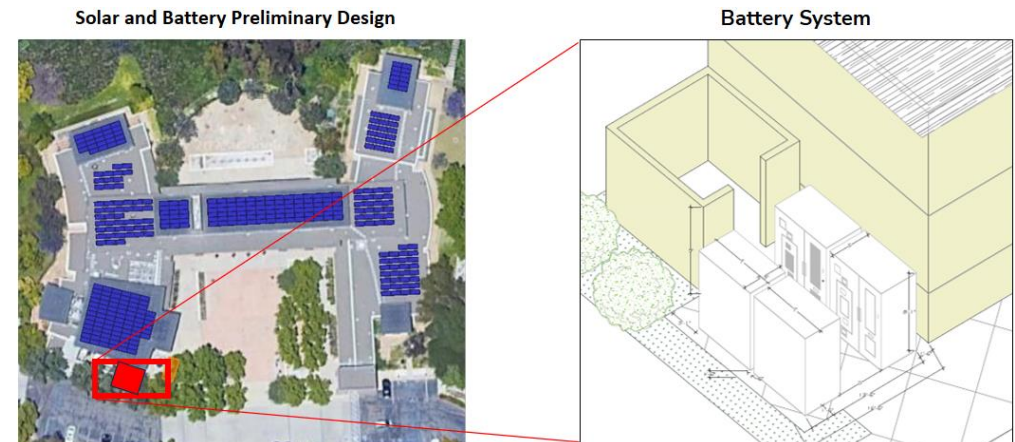
⚡ **Power Ready Benefits:**

- No up-front costs to member agencies and no-direct-costs for participants
- Easy participation as CPA contracts directly with the vendor to finance, build, own, and operate the systems for 20 years.

⚡ **Power Ready Round 1:** 11 backup energy systems are moving forward into final contract negotiations, design, permitting, and construction.

⚡ **Power Ready Round 2:** CPA is seeking critical agency and community sites that offer critical public services (Fire & Police Stations) or places of refuge (cooling centers, evacuation centers). Enrollment is open until November 1, 2025

⚡ Visit <https://cleanpoweralliance.org/powerready/> for more information and email powerready@cleanpoweralliance.org to start the process



Round 1 participant design example



Power Response



Power Response Overview

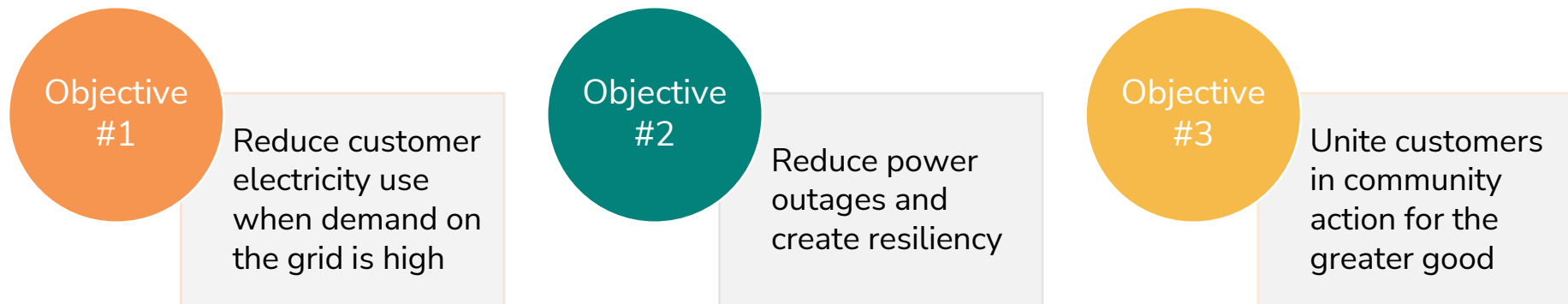
What is Power Response?

- ⚡ A demand response program that encourages both residential and commercial customers to reduce energy usage during energy savings events, when electricity cost is at its highest or demand is high.
- ⚡ The program features three tracks in which to participate, making it available to all CPA customers so that everyone has the opportunity to reduce energy usage and receive incentives.

How Does it Work?

- ⚡ Participants in the program receive financial incentives for reducing stress on the grid, while helping our communities become more resilient.
- ⚡ Visit cleanpoweralliance.org/powerresponse/ for complete program details

Program Goals:





POWER RESPONSE
Smart Home



POWER RESPONSE
Home



POWER RESPONSE
Commercial Leaders

Eligibility	<u>Residential</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Owns eligible smart connected device	<u>Residential</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Smart connected device not required	<u>Business</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Site(s) with regular energy use between 4 and 9 PM
How to Participate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Automatic Demand ResponseSmart <u>Connected</u> Devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Behavioral Demand ResponseParticipants manually adjust their usage at home to conserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Automatic for site(s) with an eligible smart device and/orSites manually adjust electricity use of systems
Incentives Offered	<p>Enrollment Incentives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Smart Thermostat: \$85Battery: \$400 <p>Annual Participation Incentives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Smart Thermostat: \$40Battery: \$300 <p>Incentive Type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital gift card, Venmo, or PayPal	<p>Enrollment Incentive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">\$20 for signing up <p>Annual Participation Incentive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">\$2/kWh reduced (cumulative) <p>Incentive Type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital gift card, Venmo or PayPal	<p>Participation Incentives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Incentive is based on monthly average kW reductionUp to \$80 per kW each year for power reduced during events:<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$14/kW in the summer (June – Sept)\$3/kW in the non-summer months <p>Incentive Type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Checks to businesses



Smart Light Switch Pilot



Smart Light Switch Pilot

- During on-peak periods, when energy is at its most expensive, the Flick Smart Light Switch automatically glows yellow to alert the resident that electricity cost is higher, and conserving energy could result in bill savings.
- Supports the shift of energy usage out of peak times through customer education of Time-of-Use rates.
 - **BLUE**: This signals an important message from management or CPA.
 - **YELLOW**: This signals that it is a TOU peak period and energy is more expensive. You can save money by reducing your electricity usage.
 - **RED**: This signals that energy demand on the grid is higher than seasonally projected. You can help by reducing your electricity use, which may also result in bill savings.

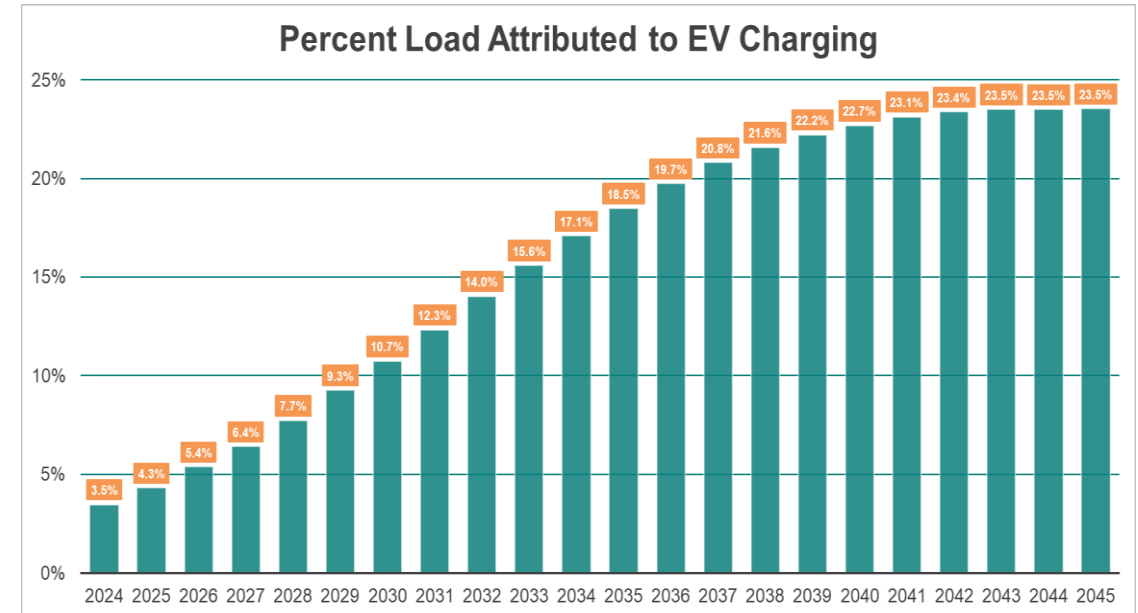


EV SmartCharge



Background

- ⚡ EV charging is projected to represent 10% of CPA load by 2030 and nearly 23% of load by 2040
- ⚡ Much of this load is currently in high price or high greenhouse gas emission hours of the day
- ⚡ Supporting customers to optimize their charging around low-cost hours can reduce costs for customers and CPA
- ⚡ CPA's EV SmartCharge managed charging program will incentivize customers to shift their EV charging to off-peak times leveraging vehicle telematics or electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)



CPA is projecting 10X growth in EV ownership, by 2045 there will be 1.2M+ EVs in CPA territory.*

*CPA projections based on third party sales forecasts



EV SmartCharge Overview

What is EV SmartCharge?

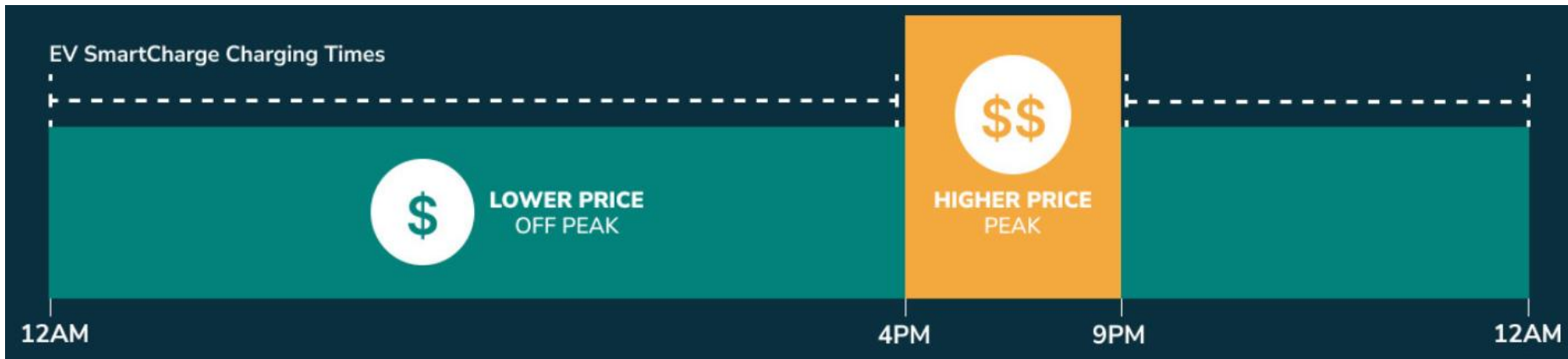
- ⚡ An electric vehicle smart charging program available to CPA residential customers that optimizes charging at home to automatically occur during off-peak times when electricity demand and prices are lower.

Who is eligible?

- ⚡ CPA Residential customers with dedicated home charging.

How does it work?

- ⚡ Smart charging helps participants save money on their electricity bill by optimizing their charging for the cheapest energy available and offers monthly incentives for participating.





Incentives

- ⚡ Incentives encourage customer enrollment and continued participation, in addition to bill savings.
- ⚡ One-time enrollment incentive for every eligible vehicle or charger connected.
- ⚡ Monthly incentive for completing 5 smart charging sessions at home each month optimizing their charging.

Enrollment Incentive

\$50 per PHEV
\$100 per BEV
\$100 per EVSE

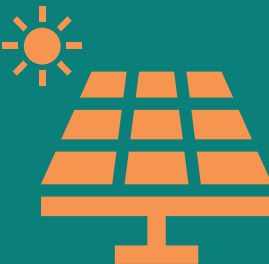
Participation Incentive

\$5 Monthly*








*Conditions apply



Energy Team

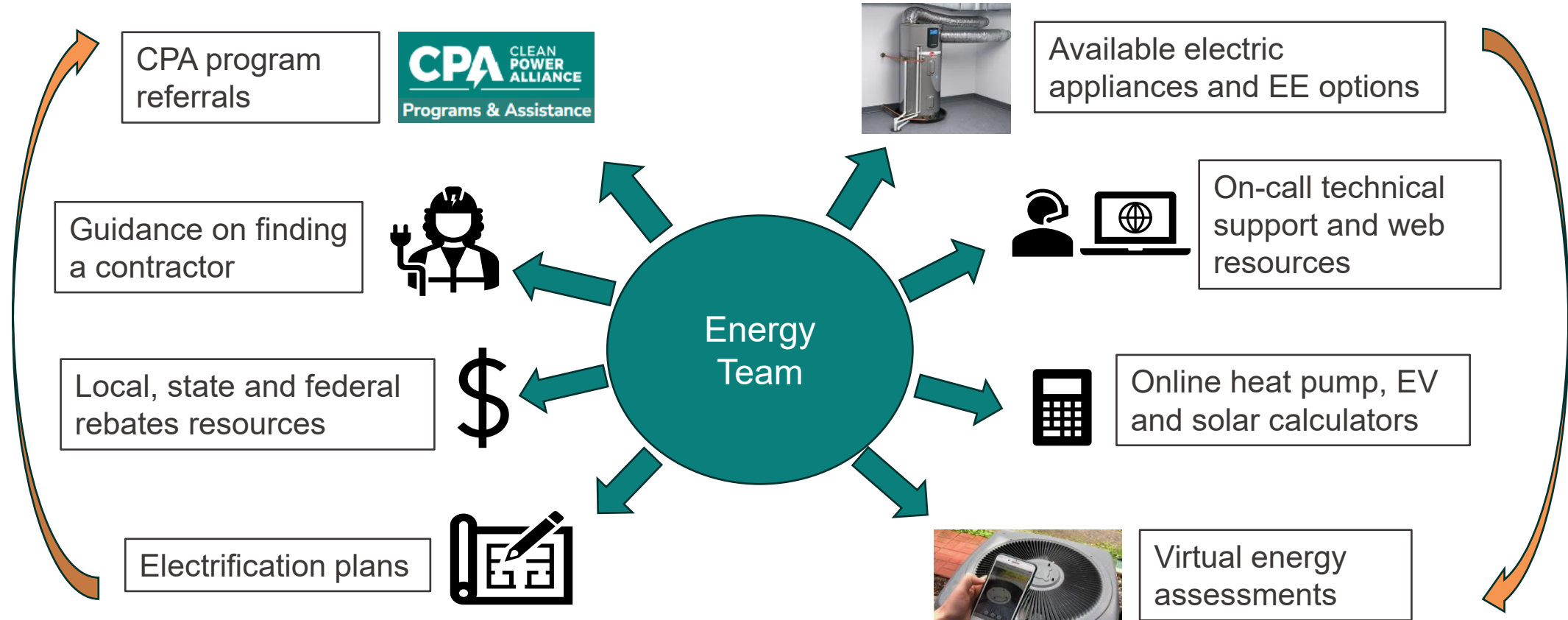


Program Overview

Purpose	Who Can Participate	Contact Info
 To accelerate home and small business electrification upgrades by providing on-call technical support and web-based resources to evaluate potential upgrades, apply for rebates, and find local contractors to complete projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renters/multifamily residential Single family residential Small Business commercial customers	<div>Call. Monday - Friday 9-5 PT If it's about energy, our team can help. (866) 319-4488</div> <div>Email. Like to write? We do, too! EnergyTeam@cleanpoweralliance.org</div> <div>Chat. Monday - Friday 9-5 PT With a real Energy Team member—no automated responses. (All it takes is a couple of clicks)</div>

Visit <https://cleanpoweralliance.org/energyteam/> for more information

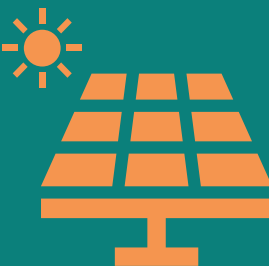
Energy Team Services Overview



Over 97% of CPA customers will be eligible to participate in this service

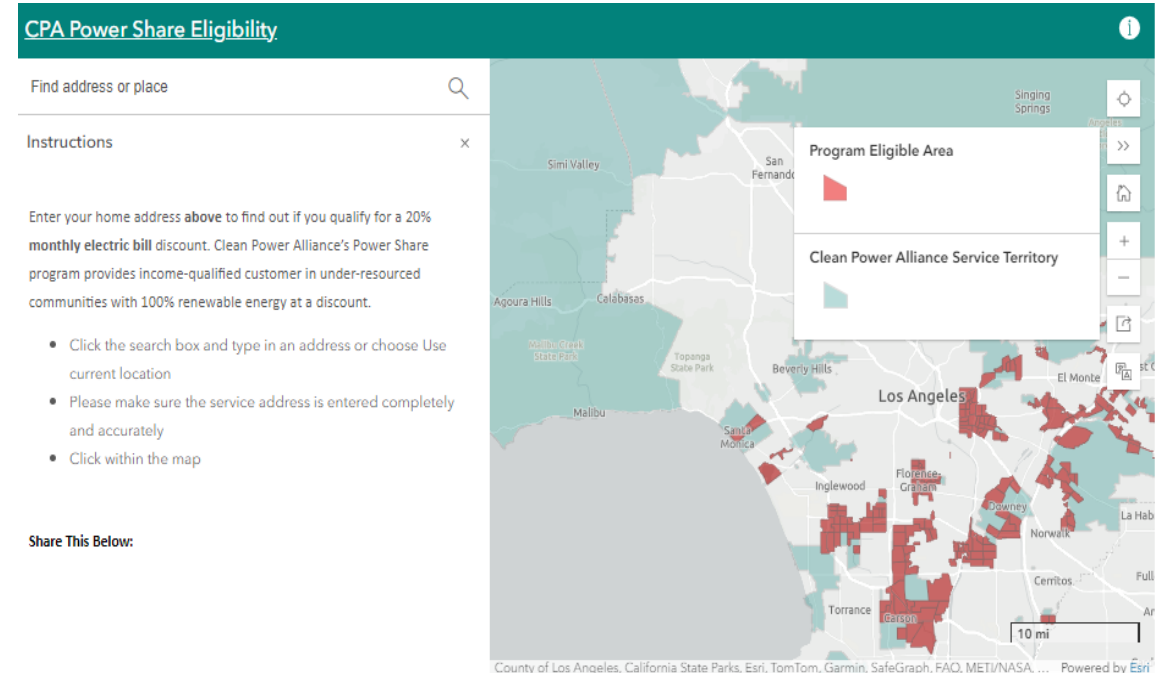


Power Share

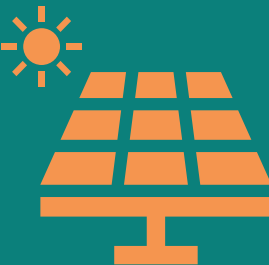


Power Share Overview

- ⚡ Power Share gives income eligible customers living in a disadvantaged community 100% renewable energy with a 20% bill discount
- ⚡ Residential customers must be eligible for CARE or FERA and live within a census tract that is categorized as DAC by CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or 4.0 to participate
- ⚡ Power Share can currently support 10,090 customers
- ⚡ The Power Share webpage has information on eligibility, including a searchable map to check for DAC eligibility
- ⚡ Visit cleanpoweralliance.org/power-share for more information



Sun Storage Rebate



Sun Storage Rebate Overview

The Sun Storage Rebate provides CPA residential customers with a rebate up to \$2,250 to install battery storage systems with solar PV

- ⚡ Program launched on March 7, 2024
- ⚡ New Fire Resilience Incentive available
- ⚡ FY 25/26 funding supports 1,000 applications
- ⚡ Visit cleanpoweralliance.org/sun-storage-rebate for application forms

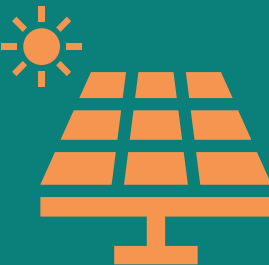


Program Requirements

- ⚡ Customers will receive \$750 for successfully installing a battery storage system that meets the following requirements:
 1. Must be new and paired with (new or existing) solar PV system
 2. Have a combined total capacity of at least 5 kWh
 3. Verified as part of SGIP's Verified Equipment List
 4. Set to discharge 50% of its capacity on a daily basis
- ⚡ Base Incentive - \$750
- ⚡ Medical Qualified Incentive - +\$250
- ⚡ Income Qualified Incentive - +\$250
- ⚡ Fire Resilience Incentive - +\$1,250
- ⚡ Eligible customers may receive the Base Incentive , Fire Resilience Incentive, and either (i) the Medical Qualified Incentive or (ii) Income Qualified incentive for a combined total of \$2,250.
- ⚡ Customers cannot receive both the Medical Qualified Incentive and Income Qualified Incentive.



Solar and Battery Access Program



The Solar and Battery Access program makes sustainable, renewable energy accessible by helping qualified homeowners receive solar with no out-of-pocket expenses for equipment and installation.



Enhance Home Resilience

With solar and battery systems, homeowners can access stored energy and enhance their home's resilience and readiness for power outages.



Average Estimated Savings of 70% on Annual Electricity Bills

Eligible homeowners can start saving on electricity bills right away with a solar and battery system—no initial payment required for equipment or installation.



Accessible Solar Power

CPA with partner Haven Energy smooth the way to solar for qualified homeowners, assisting every step of the way—from application to funding and installation.

Solar and Battery Access Program

- ⚡ The Solar and Battery Access Program provides income qualified single-family homeowners with solar PV and battery storage systems at no cost for 10 years
- ⚡ Eligible homeowners do not need to make any upfront payments or perform credit checks to participate. Further, no property lien will be placed on their home
- ⚡ Program uses federal ITC, Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) Residential Solar and Storage Equity (RSSE) funds, and outside funding from CPA and Haven Energy
- ⚡ CPA and Haven Energy will operate the installed battery storage systems as a virtual power plant for 3 years, helping customers save money and reducing resource adequacy costs for CPA

Program Eligibility:

- Must be a CPA customer
- Must own a single family home
- Must be at or below 80% area median income

CPA expected to save \$380k in RA costs over 3 years



More Questions?

Please reach out to:

Sona Coffee

(213) 361-6092

scoffee@cleanpoweralliance.org