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**WESTERN
COMMUNITY ENERGY**
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD POWER AUTHORITY

Western Community Energy set to begin providing service to 6 cities in April and May

Western Community Energy offers cleaner energy at lower rates for all residents and businesses in six cities

RIVERSIDE, CA – Residents and businesses from the Cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Perris, and Wildomar will soon see a change their electric energy supply from Southern California Edison (SCE) to the locally based and governed Western Community Energy (WCE)! WCE offers lower rates and cleaner energy to those that participate. Mail notifications will be provided to community members February through July with additional information on this change.

WCE was formed in 2018 to provide residents and businesses with a cheaper and cleaner choice in their electricity supply. WCE’s Board of Directors, comprised of locally elected officials from the jurisdictions listed above, recently adopted a rate schedule that will save WCE customers about 2% on their electric bills compared to their current bills.

Residents and businesses who participate in WCE will see a 2% cost reduction on their electric bills, while their electricity delivery and billing processes will remain the same. Every WCE customer will continue to receive a SCE bill, the only change is WCE will be listed as the provider of the electric generation portion of the bill. All payments will continue to be sent to SCE and electricity will be distributed through SCE’s transmission lines and hook ups. Additionally, SCE will continue to respond to all service needs such as power outages or other common issues. The transition from SCE to WCE for residents and businesses will be seamless with no disruption for customers. For example, customers participating in electric programs and rates like the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA), and Medical Baseline will continue to receive the discounts from these programs in addition to the cheaper rates offered by WCE without needing to re-apply, or fill out any additional paperwork.

Ben Benoit, Chair of WCE and a Councilmember for the City of Wildomar stated, “We are excited that WCE will be able to deliver on our goals of providing greener and cheaper energy to our communities. We are looking forward to our residents and businesses receiving all the benefits Western Community Energy has to offer, including savings on their utility bills and additional localized energy programs we will be able to deliver in the future.”

For residents and businesses in the Cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Perris, and Wildomar, enrollment in WCE is automatic. In April 2020, WCE will begin providing electricity in the Cities of Norco, Perris, and Wildomar. In May 2020 WCE will launch electric service in the Cities of Eastvale, Hemet, and Jurupa Valley. All customers will be enrolled in the “Choice Plan” default product, which includes a minimum 37% renewable energy. However, if any customer wishes, they can opt-up to a 100% green option, branded as “Choice Plus”, which will be offered at additional cost.

Participation in WCE is voluntary; customers can opt-out of WCE and remain with SCE if they desire. WCE will provide customers with a rate comparison between WCE and SCE to assist them in their decision-making.

For residents and business interested in learning more, go to westerncommunityenergy.com or call at (866) 356-4175.

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About Western Community Energy

Western Community Energy (WCE) is a joint powers authority, consisting of the Cities of Canyon Lake, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Perris, and Wildomar, and was formed for the purpose of developing a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program that will purchase energy on behalf of its residents and businesses, potentially offering lower rates than Southern California Edison (SCE) can provide. A CCA provides the community choices when it comes to energy mixes and programs, while providing local control over rate setting. For more information, please visit westerncommunityenergy.com.

Work to form WCE began in 2016, with the development of a Feasibility Study that examined the viability of moving forward with a CCA by looking at the energy markets and the costs associated with Southern California Edison purchasing power on behalf of its customers. As a result of the findings that a CCA would be feasible, WCE was formed as a new program.

WCE aims to provide its customers:

- Competitive, often lower, electricity rates
- A cleaner, more efficient energy supply
- Consumer choice, consumer protection, and local control over rate setting and programs
- Local jobs creation and local power resiliency
- Complementary energy programs such as net energy metering, energy efficiency retrofits, distributed rooftop and community solar, electric vehicle incentives and demand response technologies
- New renewable power development

About Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Programs

A CCA is a model that allows communities to aggregate its power and then purchase to meet the needs of its community, offering an alternative choice in the market—often the only alternative to sourcing power from the investor owned utility (IOU). CCAs can provide the communities they serve with competitively priced, clean energy choices while reinvesting revenues into projects and programs that support the local economy.