Two Workshops Offer Opportunity for Developers and Local Property Owners to Host So Cal Edison Renewable Energy Resources, Increase Revenue

Seek to support 100% renewable goals set by cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta

March 1, 2018 SANTA BARBARA, CA – Local coalition CleanEnergy805 is excited to announce two workshops to help property owners and developers navigate the proposal process for Southern California Edison projects that will build renewable energy resources in Southern Santa Barbara County and Western Ventura County.

Workshop details:
Tuesday, March 13th
2:30- 5:00pm
CMC
6740 Cortona Drive, Suite 101
Goleta, CA 93117
Parking: Attendees may park in the lot or on the street as available
(optional networking event to follow at M Special Brewery)

Thursday, March 15
9:00AM-12:00pm
Ventura County Community Foundation
Pharos Community Room
4001 Mission Oaks Blvd,
Camarillo, CA 93012

Southern California Edison (SCE) has identified a need for up to 308 MW of energy development in the Moorpark sub area that encompasses both counties. On February 28, SCE put out a Request For Proposals (RFP) to fill this need by building local renewable energy resources in Southern Santa Barbara County and Western Ventura County.

Local landowners willing to site projects on their roofs, parking lots, or open spaces stand to benefit financially through reduced energy costs and/or additional revenue by selling energy and other related services directly to the local energy grid. At the same time, local communities will benefit from a more resilient electricity infrastructure, cleaner energy production, and better air quality.

CleanEnergy805, a local coalition of nonprofit agencies, is hosting these workshops to educate businesses, local governments, and property owners about this opportunity to generate revenue and increase local energy reliability, while also supporting clean energy innovation to achieve the region’s energy and environmental goals.

Workshop attendees will get to discuss the benefits of installing distributed, renewable resources through SCE’s RFP. They will also learn more about the solicitation, determine which
RFP energy programs best fit their needs, and network with energy developers to partner on their project. The workshop is free for local business managers, landowners, and government facility managers.

Under the RFP, local property managers will partner with developers to bid into SCE’s solicitation. SCE will in turn select projects based on a “least cost/best fit” analysis. SCE has announced a preference for renewable energy projects in Southern Santa Barbara County, but will also accept bids for gas fired generation in the area. Clean Energy 805 hopes to connect developers with property managers interested in developing renewable energy projects so SCE will have an ample portfolio of renewable energy bids to consider.

For more information or to register for the workshops, visit CleanEnergy805.org.

About Clean Energy 805
CleanEnergy805 is a coalition of the following local and area non-profit organizations: Community Environmental Council (CEC), Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI), World Business Academy, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE), and Sierra Club. Each of the coalition’s non-profits work at some level to promote clean energy solutions and recognize the potential of this solicitation to shape the outcome of our energy future. CleanEnergy805’s vision is to accelerate growth of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties through a robust response to SCE’s RPF solicitation. For more information: http://www.cleanenergy805.org/.

Quotes
“We hope that SCE will act in response to the community’s overwhelming preference to develop local renewable energy projects. This RFP could be SCE’s chance to actively support the resolutions by Goleta and Santa Barbara to achieve a 100% renewable energy economy,”
-April Price, Community Environmental Council, member of CleanEnergy805

“SCE’s upcoming RFP is a tremendous opportunity to increase the resiliency of local energy system, increase the amount of renewables in Southern Santa Barbara County, create clean energy jobs, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I encourage both local site hosts and developers to participate in this process.”
-County Supervisor Joan Hartmann

“This offers an enormous collaborative opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, develop renewables, provide consumers with economic benefits, and accomplish our community goal of reaching 100% sustainable energy by 2030. Given the lack of utility-scale renewable projects in our area and our geographic vulnerability and reliability issues, the chance to forge a path that would allow local renewable energy development and generation is critical. I hope this solicitation produces a strong local response that would begin the process of collaboration between developers and land owners to create energy choices that are better aligned with our values as a community.”
-County Supervisor Das Williams

“With the closure of Mandalay and Ormond Beach power plants, this area could become completely reliant on outside energy without a local energy solution. Local landowners have a unique opportunity to earn additional revenue from energy generation, while also keeping those revenues within the local economy for the benefit of municipal and county programs.”
-Robert Perry of the World Business Academy, CleanEnergy805 member
Additional Background Information
The fight over our local energy supply is a reflection of the ongoing debate over statewide energy planning, and the relative success of Southern California Edison’s (SCE) energy solicitation will largely determine the future of our regional energy economy. In Oxnard, two large natural gas-fired plants will soon be retired, and SCE needs to meet those energy needs from new sources. Their initial plan called for the construction of “The Puente Project,” a large gas-fired plant in Oxnard intended to partially replace the retiring facilities, and the refurbishment of the Ellwood Power Station located within a now densely populated area. However, extreme public opposition to the both projects, citing air pollution and environmental justice concerns, required SCE to reconsider renewable options for local energy development.