

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Requesting East Bay Community Energy Enroll All City Of Emeryville Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Accounts In Brilliant 100 (100% Greenhouse Gas Free) As The Default Electricity Product

WHEREAS, the City of Emeryville has been a leader in the fight against climate change, having adopted its first Climate Action Plan in 2008 with a goal of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 25% below 2004 baseline emission levels by 2020; and

WHEREAS, Emeryville's community-wide GHG emissions were reduced by 7.84% over baseline levels as of 2014, which, with rapid population and economic growth during that time equates to a 30.71% decrease in per-capita emissions during that period; and

WHEREAS, Emeryville was the first City in the region to update its Climate Action Plan, in 2016, to align with the State of California's emissions reduction targets of reducing the community-wide GHG emissions to 40% below 2004 baseline emission levels by 2030 and to 80% below baseline levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Emeryville's Climate Action Plan identifies participation in a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, which allows public agencies to procure a greater percentage of electrical power from renewable and greenhouse gas-free sources on behalf of electricity customers, as a key strategy to meet GHG reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, the Emeryville City Council voted to join the East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) CCA on November 1, 2016 and subsequently appointed representatives to its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the EBCE Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement commits to providing an electricity product with rates equal or lower than PG&E that reduces GHG emissions and increases renewable energy content; and

WHEREAS, the EBCE Board set two initial products at their meeting on February 7, 2018: an 85% GHG-free product called Bright Choice and a 100% GHG-product called Brilliant 100; and

WHEREAS, enrolling in the Brilliant 100 GHG-free electricity option is the most cost-effective way to reduce GHG emissions in Emeryville, and would not have an economic impact on local business because the product is the same price as PG&E; and

WHEREAS, other CCA programs have been successful at offering 100% GHG-free or 100% renewable default products to all customers; and

WHEREAS, commercial customers in the City of Emeryville will have the option to "opt down" to an electrical power portfolio with a lower percentage of GHG-free electricity offered at rates at a slight discount (estimated at less than 1% of electricity costs) or to "opt out" to continue with PG&E's current product and rate for electrical power; and

WHEREAS, PG&E's GHG-free content is forecasted to reach 88% in 2018, which would mean EBCE's Bright Choice 85% GHG-free product would represent an increase in GHG emissions over PG&E's default product; and

WHEREAS, an analysis by energy consultants Kyoto USA, funded by a grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, indicates that a default to Brilliant 100 for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers, even with some customers opting down to Bright Choice or opting out to PG&E, would result in a reduction of 10,361 metric tonnes of carbon-equivalent GHGs, representing an 8.62% reduction in community-wide emissions (based on 2014 numbers) compared to the Bright Choice option; and

WHEREAS, establishing a GHG-free default electricity product would allow Emeryville to showcase its environmental leadership and demonstrate efforts to create a sustainable community in line with the goals of the General Plan and Climate Action Plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Emeryville hereby requests that East Bay Community Energy enroll all commercial, industrial, and institutional accounts within the City of Emeryville in Brilliant 100 (100% GHG-free) as the default electricity product, with the option to opt down to the Bright Choice option or opt out to stay with PG&E's current offering.

ADOPTED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville at a regular meeting held Tuesday, March 20, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: _____
NOES: _____
ABSTAIN: _____
ABSENT: _____

MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY CLERK



CITY ATTORNEY