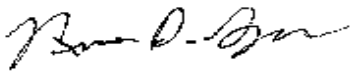


# City of Calistoga

## Staff Report

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Lynn Goldberg, Planning and Building Director  
**DATE:** September 1, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Marin Clean Energy Non-Binding Letter of Membership Interest

APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING



Richard D. Spitler, City Manager

1 **ISSUE:** Consider authorizing the City Manager to submit a non-binding letter of  
 2 membership interest to Marin Clean Energy, an alternative electric energy supplier

3 **RECOMMENDATION:** Direct the City Manager to submit a non-binding letter of  
 4 membership interest on behalf of the City of Calistoga to Marin Clean Energy

5 **BACKGROUND:** On May 15th, the City Council received a presentation from Marin  
 6 Clean Energy (MCE), a public, not-for-profit electricity provider that focuses on  
 7 maximizing the use of renewable energy sources in addition to lower energy  
 8 rates. Sustainable Napa County is encouraging all of the county's communities to  
 9 become members of MCE as a "greener" energy provider.

10 Following MCE's presentation, the Council directed staff to pursue this energy option  
 11 and report back to the Council.

12 **DISCUSSION:** As described in the attached outline, the City's next step in pursuing  
 13 MCE membership is to submit a letter requesting consideration as a member. The cities  
 14 of Napa and St. Helena, and the Town of Yountville have recently submitted such  
 15 letters. (The County of Napa is already a MCE member.)

16 If the City's request is approved, the City would enter into a contract with MCE to fund  
 17 preparation of a rate and services analysis. The study's results would be shared publicly  
 18 with residents and the City Council. The Council would then be able to approve a  
 19 resolution requesting membership in MCE for Calistoga residents and an ordinance  
 20 authorizing community choice aggregation and approval of a Joint Powers Authority  
 21 Agreement.

22 The MCE Board would then adopt a resolution authorizing the City's membership in the  
 23 program.



24 **FISCAL IMPACT:** Part of any membership negotiations with MCE would address the  
25 financial responsibility for the rate and services analysis. It is hoped that the cost of  
26 the analysis would be shared with the other county jurisdictions applying to join at the  
27 same time as Calistoga.

28 **ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION:** The City could decline to pursue  
29 membership in MCE. Electric customers would continue to receive electricity sourced  
30 by PG&E.

### **ATTACHMENT**

1. MCE Affiliate Membership Process
2. City Manager's Letter to MCE