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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 10, 2018

MONTEREY BAY COMMUNITY POWER ROLLS OUT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agency and Community Leaders Herald Collaborative Process

Monterey, CA April 10, 2018 – In a move that confirmed Monterey Bay Community Power’s (MBCP) commitment to address the needs of Tri-County businesses and residents, the MBCP Operations Board voted unanimously last week in support of forming a Community Advisory Council (CAC). In addition to outlining the council member selection process, board members confirmed the advisory role which the CAC will play for the new, not-for-profit agency.

Less than 5 weeks after MBCP began service for Tri-County, this publicly-owned electricity provider is accomplishing lofty goals on behalf of the customers it serves. “As a public agency formed by 16 cities and all three counties in Tri-County, we have a duty to these communities,” explained MBCP Marketing and Communications Manager, Peter Berridge. “The Community Advisory Council represents our commitment to inclusivity and transparency, and to addressing the unique needs of our diverse region.”

Although MBCP identified a Community Advisory Council early in the planning process, it took several months and ongoing public comment during board meetings to finally shape the CAC into what it is beginning to be today. “It took a lot of work to get us here,” shared MBCP Program Coordinator, Beth Trenchard. “Members of our community put forth a persistent effort to shape the CAC into something they could embrace and benefit from, and we put the time in to incorporate their feedback and create an advisory group that supports MBCP’s mission and the will of Tri-County businesses and residents.”

The crux for a council that will advise MBCP revolves around determining how best to direct agency funds. Because MBCP is not an investor-owned utility, surplus revenues that would normally go to shareholders and investors will be reinvested in the community to maximize greenhouse gas reduction, stabilize and reduce customer rates and costs, and invest in local energy projects and programs.

The application process for seats on the CAC is underway and members of the business, agriculture, hospitality, environmental, and residential communities have been some of the first to apply. Eleven qualified CAC members who best represent the diversity of the region will be selected. A subcommittee made up of County Supervisors from Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties will identify top candidates, after which members of the MBCP Policy Board will vote to determine the final selection. Visit <http://www.mbcommunitypower.org/about/jobs/> to apply.

Monterey Bay Community Power is a Community Choice Energy agency established by local communities to source carbon-free electricity for Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties while retaining PG&E’s traditional role delivering power and maintaining electric infrastructure. As a locally controlled not-for-profit, MBCP is not taxpayer funded and supports Tri-County economic vitality by providing cleaner energy at a lower cost, supporting low-income rate payers, and funding local renewable energy projects. For more information, visit www.mbcommunitypower.org