



North County Group
Sierra Club San Diego
P.O. Box 2141
Escondido, CA 92033

February 12, 2018

Mayor Sam Abed and City Council Members
City of Escondido
201 N. Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025

RE: Sierra Club North County Group urges city of Escondido to participate in North County clean energy study.

Dear Mayor and City Council members:

The Sierra Club, North County Group represents 2,800 members in the inland North County area. We stand in strong support for action by local governments to respond to the crisis of climate change.

Recently, it was reported in the San Diego Union Tribune¹ that Oceanside has joined three other North County cities to evaluate how a community choice energy alternative might work for their residents and businesses.

Escondido has yet to join the study and we strongly urge you to do so. The more cities that participate, the lower the cost to each city. This opportunity is a bargain for the city to receive a professional analysis that can provide well-founded research on if and how a community choice plan could work for Escondido.

Already, five cities, including the two largest, San Diego and Chula Vista, have made commitments in their Climate Action Plans to achieve 100% clean energy. A community choice energy plan is a good way to achieve that goal.

Other cities in California already have community choice energy program. Depending on the design of the program, the local government has the potential to secure lower cost, cleaner energy for its businesses and residents and may, in fact, create revenue for the city as well. Some community energy programs, such as those in Sonoma and Marin counties, yield millions of dollars to local governments. The only way to know if such a program could work for Escondido is to participate in the study.

Since the city is working to update the Escondido Climate Action plan, we strongly urge your consideration and participation in this effort. Please let us know how we can support you in this decision. We can be contacted at (619) 997-9983.

Sincerely,
Kelly Conrad, Chair
Laura Hunter, Conservation Coordinator

cc. Mr. Jeff Epp, City Manager

¹ <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/sd-no-energy-study-20180205-story.html>