COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
WE’RE BUILDING RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE
California Publicly Owned Utilities
RELIABLE

Publicly owned utilities (POUs) keep the lights on, energizing California’s local economies and keeping our communities — the neighborhoods we live in — healthy and safe. Our **POU Advantage** allows us to respond 3 times faster than private utilities. In the rare case the power does go out, POU work crews stand ready 24/7 to respond quickly and restore service.

AFFORDABLE

The **POU Advantage** in California offers many benefits to customers: faster responsiveness to customer concerns; access to a local governing board and friendly, in-person service; and providing jobs in their communities. For decades, our POU advantage has helped saved residential and business customers millions of dollars per year thanks to rates that are 15% lower than private utilities.
SUSTAINABLE

The POU Advantage allows each of our communities to tailor its energy resources — solar, wind, natural gas, hydro or geothermal — to build a power mix that meets local needs, and benefits state, national and global goals. California POUs are making significant investments in their communities and are on track to produce 60% renewable energy by 2030.

COMMUNITIES

POUs are the locally accountable to the public. We are governed by elected and appointed boards — our neighbors — whose primary goal is to do what’s best for our people, giving every person and business the opportunity to improve, grow and prosper. We give back to our customers and communities, by lowering bills with energy efficiency. That’s the POU Advantage.

DID YOU KNOW?

California customers served by POUs pay electricity rates 15% lower on average than those who get electricity from private investor-owned utilities. POUs provide high quality union jobs in their communities, the vast majority from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). 22% of Californians receive power from CMUA member electric utilities.
PUBLICLY OWNED UTILITIES (POU)
Driving Principle: Do What’s Best for Our Customers and Community

We achieve a balance between:
• Needs of the local community
• Sustainability of resources to build a decarbonized power supply
• Reliability of the grid
• Affordability of energy
• Innovation to become more efficient
• Creating local jobs

Future: Leading innovation, addressing community needs and investing in local economic development

UNDERSTANDING CALIFORNIA’S POWER STRUCTURE AND THE BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITIES

California is served by three different utility models, each with distinct characteristics. POU and IOUs have served for more than a century. More recently, Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) are being created to give local communities an even bigger voice in their energy future.
INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITIES (IOU)
Driving Principle: Profits to Shareholders

IOUs achieve a balance between:
• Maximizing shareholder return
• Reliability of the grid
• Adopting technologies as required by regulation
• Affordability of energy

Future: Business model shifting toward becoming electric distribution (wires) companies only
COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATORS (CCA)

Driving Principle: Local Energy Choice and Sustainable Power Supply

CCAs achieve a balance between:
• Delivering low-carbon power
• Needs of the local community
• Innovation to become more efficient
• Creating local jobs

Future: Growing rapidly, formed by local and regional governments, predicted to supply 85% of IOU customers
CALIFORNIA ENERGY BY THE NUMBERS

CALIFORNIA’S TOTAL SYSTEM ELECTRIC POWER MIX

- Coal: 36%
- Large Hydro: 22%
- Natural Gas: 30%
- Nuclear: 21%
- Renewables: 7%
- Unspecified Sources: 6%

WHO PROVIDES YOUR ELECTRICITY SERVICE?

- 78% Investor owned utilities and CCAs
- 22% Publicly owned utilities

HOW CUSTOMERS USE ELECTRICITY

- Commercial: 36%
- Residential: 30%
- Industrial: 21%
- Agricultural: 7%
- Other: 6%

WHERE YOUR ELECTRIC DOLLAR GOES

- Transmission
- Distribution
- Power Supply
CMUA IS THE VOICE OF CALIFORNIA’S PUBLICLY OWNED ELECTRIC UTILITIES AND WATER AGENCIES

The California Municipal Utilities Association, with 68 electric and water member agencies statewide — a mix of large, medium and small-sized organizations — represents the common interests of California’s publicly owned utilities. We serve our members with:

**ADVOCACY.** We work on behalf of members in front of the Legislature and state and federal regulatory agencies, advancing public policies that benefit CMUA members and the people of California. During a typical two-year legislative cycle, CMUA and its Legislative Committee review thousands of bills and takes positions on dozens of measures affecting publicly owned water, electric and gas utilities.

**RELATIONSHIPS.** We keep members informed. The weekly *CMUA News and Views* electronic newsletter offers stories on state issues, member programs, various stakeholders and national interest, and *California Water & Power*, our quarterly magazine, dives into the big issues and recent innovations. Also, regular updates on legislative and regulatory issues keep members on top of the latest developments.

**EDUCATION.** We bring together our members at important events and meetings throughout the year, giving members the opportunity to engage with their peers, CMUA’s expert staff, the water and power industry, and state and local decision-makers.

WHO WE ARE

Alameda Municipal Power
Anaheim Public Utilities
Azusa Light & Water Department
Banning Public Utilities Department
Burbank Water & Power
Byron-Bethany Irrigation District
Camrosa Water District
Cerritos, City of
Colton, City of
Corona Department of Water and Power
East Bay Municipal Utility District
Eastern Municipal Water District
Glendale Water & Power
Gridley, City of
Healdsburg Electric & Water
Imperial Irrigation District
Industry, City of
Irvine Ranch Water District
Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Lassen Municipal Utility District
Lodi Electric Utility, City of
Long Beach Gas and Oil
Long Beach Water Department
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
Marin Municipal Water District
Merced Irrigation District
Mesa Water District
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Modesto Irrigation District
Moreno Valley Electric Utility
M-S-R Public Power Agency
Municipal Water District of Orange County
Needles, City of
Northern California Power Agency
Palo Alto Utilities, City of
Pasadena Water & Power Department
Pittsburg Power Company
Placer County Water Agency
Rancho California Water District
Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Utility
Redding Electric Utility
Riverside Public Utilities Department
Roseville Electric Department
Roseville Environmental Utilities
Sacramento Department of Utilities, City of
SMUD
San Diego County Water Authority
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Jose, City of
Santa Ana Municipal Utility Services
Silicon Valley Power (City of Santa Clara)
Shasta Lake, City of
South San Joaquin Irrigation District
Southern California Public Power Authority
State Water Contractors
Sunnyvale Utility Services, City of
Transmission Agency of Northern California
Trinity Public Utility District
Truckee Donner Public Utility District
Turlock Irrigation District
Ukiah, City of
Valley Center Municipal Water District
Valley Water
Vernon Public Utilities, City of
Victorville, City of
Western Municipal Water District
Yuba Water Agency