



# TOWN OF ATHERTON

CITY COUNCIL  
150 WATKINS AVENUE  
ATHERTON, CALIFORNIA 94027  
(650) 752-0500

---

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Chris R. Holden  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 612 (Portantino) – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Holden,

The Town of Atherton strongly supports SB 612 (Portantino), a ratepayer equity bill that would ensure fair and equal access to the benefits of legacy resources and that these legacy resources held in the investor-owned utility (IOU) portfolios are managed to maximize value for all customers.

Over the last decade, more than 11 million customers have transitioned from Investor Owned Utility (IOU) electric service providers to Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs), local community-led, not-for-profit agencies, choosing to purchase electricity on behalf of their residents and businesses. The Town of Atherton is a part of Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) which is comprised of San Mateo County and all 20 cities in San Mateo County. Next year PCE will begin service to the City of Los Banos, in Merced County. Our agencies have banded together to provide clean electricity at competitive rates, offering a choice in electricity service providers for the first time to nearly 300,000 customers.

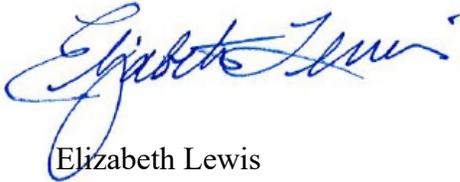
When a customer transitions to a CCA, the customer continues to pay for resources, like energy, that were procured on their behalf through the power charge indifference adjustment (PCIA). However, unlike an IOU customer, CCA customers receive no benefits from these resources. This inequity has been exacerbated in recent years as the cost of this payment has risen by hundreds of millions of dollars, with no sign of decreasing. The impacts of COVID-19 have made the importance of righting this inequity and lowering costs for all customers even more urgent.

This bill would ensure fair and equal access to the benefits of the resources that all customers pay for and would ensure that these legacy contracts are managed in a way that maximizes benefits for everyone. The bill would also require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to recognize the value of GHG-free energy in legacy contracts.

However, time is of the essence. The longer the Legislature takes to act, the less valuable these legacy contracts will be, and the less value customers will gain from access to them. That is why we need your support for this important legislation.

If you have questions, or wish to discuss our position, please do not hesitate to contact City Manager, George Rodericks at [grodericks@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:grodericks@ci.atherton.ca.us) or 650.752.0504

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Lewis".

Elizabeth Lewis  
MAYOR  
Town of Atherton

cc: The Honorable Josh Becker  
The Honorable Scott Wiener  
The Honorable Marc Berman  
The Honorable Kevin Mullin  
The Honorable Phil Ting