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Alameda County Leads Nation's Largest Collaborative Procurement of Renewable Energy for Public Agencies

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Under the leadership of Alameda County, 19 Bay Area public agencies are joining together to collaboratively purchase renewable energy for public facilities. The Regional Renewable Energy Procurement Project (R-REP) brings clean, renewable energy to over 120 sites including community centers, libraries, fire stations, medical facilities, city halls and educational facilities.

Approximately 20 megawatts of power will be developed for projects in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties through the installation of solar panels on rooftops and carports, fuel cell power generation systems, and rooftop solar thermal applications. These projects will effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the amount generated by approximately 4,000 average-sized homes for an entire year. In addition, participating local governments anticipate saving on the cost of renewable power purchased through the collaborative.

Leveraging the leadership of Alameda County, collaboration will save public agencies administrative costs, and the large-scale purchase will lower pricing for participating agencies.

"We are proud to be a part of this outstanding collaboration, which highlights several of our priorities here in Alameda County, including sustainability and green energy production, as well as productive partnerships that enable us to maximize the return we get on the tax dollars we invest," said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator.

As lead agency in the R-REP project, Alameda County is working closely with two regional nonprofit organizations, Joint Venture Silicon Valley and the Contra Costa Economic Partnership. Optony, Inc. and Newcomb Anderson McCormick are assisting the County with technical consulting. KNN Public Finance of Oakland, a division of Zions First National Bank, is a financial advisor on the project. The initiative is anticipated to generate over \$200 million in local economic activity and jobs for solar and fuel cell system designers, installers, electricians, and construction contractors.

"For many years now, Alameda County has led the way for local governments in terms of green-building projects and alternative energy generation," said Keith Carson, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. "Now, through collaborations like this one, we are helping to make Alameda County and the Bay Area a hub of innovation creating collaborative models that build sustainable communities."

Alameda County will conduct a two-phase solicitation for the R-REP including a Request for Qualification, and then a Request for Proposals from the qualified firms with an anticipated release date in September. The R-REP vendors will be selected through a fair, open and competitive bid process. Interested vendors may register at the County's website: <http://www.acgov.org/gsa/purchasing/esubscribe.htm>. Through its regional leadership, Alameda County will help bring renewable energy to communities throughout the Bay Area, achieving power through collaboration.