



Fight Monopoly Rate Hikes: Vote No on Prop 16!

Prop 16: Locks in higher rates by locking out community choice

- Prop 16 means fewer choices for communities seeking low cost alternatives to PG&E, which already charges some of the highest electric rates in the state. PG&E is currently requesting a record high rate increase of \$ 4 billion over the next three years, which would increase monthly bills by 30%.
- Prop 16 requires a two-thirds vote for communities to choose lower cost electricity provided by nonprofit municipal utilities. In California, customers of nonprofit municipal utilities pay an average of 20%–25% less for electricity than customers of for-profit electric utilities.
- Business opposition to Prop 16 is growing: Agricultural Energy Consumers Association, California Manufacturers & Technology Association, California Association of Realtors, California Farm Bureau, Chambers of Commerce in Folsom, Greater Riverside, Santa Clara, Stockton, and Fresno.

Prop 16: Paid for by profits collected from captive customers

- Every nickel of the \$34.5 million that PG&E has spent on slick TV commercials and mailers—was collected from customers who struggle to pay their bills every month. PG&E should lower rates by \$35 million instead of using customers' money to fund an anti-choice political agenda.
- In the meantime, PG&E CEO Peter Darbee received a \$10.5 million pay package in 2009, courtesy of its captive ratepayers.
- Civic group opposition to Prop 16 is growing: AARP, League of Women Voters, Sierra Club, Consumer Federation of California, California Federation of Labor, California Tax Reform Association, California Nurses Association, League of California Cities, SEIU State Council.

Prop 16: Amends the State Constitution to help a single company

- California's constitution is not for sale. It is ballot abuse for PG&E to be the sole funder of a constitutional amendment whose sole beneficiary will be PG&E. The initiative process is supposed to empower voters, not corporations.
- PG&E has contributed \$34.5 million to Prop 16 so far. **No one else has contributed a nickel.** Not a single business, union, civic organization, nor anyone else—save PG&E itself.
- 13 of 13 newspapers have endorsed VOTE NO ON PROP 16: Sacramento Bee, San Jose Mercury, San Francisco Chronicle, Long Beach Press Telegram, Redding Record Searchlight, Oakland Tribune, Fresno Bee, Contra Costa Times, Vallejo Times Herald, Modesto Bee, Marin Ind. Journal.