



## Local Clean Energy Alliance: Ground-breaking High-impact Advocacy

This year the Local Clean Energy Alliance celebrates [10 years of accomplishment](#), at the local, state, and national level, in promoting community-based renewable energy to empower communities—especially low-income communities and communities of color most negatively impacted by the fossil fuel economy.



The Alliance advocates for the development of decentralized energy systems—integrating energy demand reduction, local renewable generation, and other distributed energy resources—as the best way to address climate change while enabling communities to transition to a clean energy economy that promotes local investment, creates family-sustaining clean energy jobs, advances social equity, and improves community resilience and health.

To that end, the Alliance published [Community Power: Decentralized Renewable Energy in California](#) in 2011, which shifted the discourse on renewable energy toward community-based resource development. Our [Clean Power, Healthy Communities](#) conferences over the last seven years have helped build a constituency for decentralized energy policies and programs in California—most notably for Community Choice energy.

The Alliance led the successful opposition to utility attacks on Community Choice energy, both Prop 16 in 2010 and AB 2145 in 2014, and we subsequently founded the [California Alliance for Community Energy](#), a statewide coalition of Community Choice energy advocates. As a result of this organizing, Community Choice programs have grown dramatically and are projected to capture 60% of investor-owned utility load in coming years.

The Alliance has also led the effort to establish [a ground-breaking Community Choice energy program](#) in the East Bay—which has uniquely committed \$500,000 to a Local Development Business Plan—and we have initiated a project (the [East Bay Shared Solar Collaborative](#)) to develop community shared solar facilities and business opportunity within our program. These efforts will be models for the rest of the state.

More broadly, the Alliance has promoted community energy empowerment through publishing [key strategy papers](#) and by leading the national [Energy Democracy Project](#), a collaborative initiative to promote local control and ownership of energy resources. This fall Island Press published collaborative volume organized by the Alliance, [Energy Democracy: Advancing Equity in Clean Energy Solutions](#).



The Alliance's work in educating, convening, organizing, and mobilizing communities has had a powerful impact, especially in California, driving the movement for local energy investments that benefit and increase the resilience of our communities.

The Alliance's strategy is to put social justice at the core of the renewable energy revolution, advocating for an energy model that empowers our communities, while building the capacity of our communities, especially low-income communities and communities of color, to take leadership in shaping our energy future.