**Sample Public Comment Remarks**

**Clean Power Alliance**

From October 2018

Good evening. I’m \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a resident of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I’m here this evening to urge you to set the default at 100% Renewable Energy with Clean Power Alliance. This really is an exciting opportunity, and I hope you recognize the incredible impact your decision will have.

Setting the default at 100% is one of the most immediate, tangible, and significant ways to drastically **cut polluting emissions**. It will take Oxnard much more time, effort and expense to achieve this kind of progress otherwise.

Defaults have immense power to affect social outcomes. Research shows that the choice of a default may turn out to be the most important decision a private or public institution makes. By setting the default at 100%, you will get much more participation at that level than if you set it at a lower tier, most customers will remain at 100%. Likewise, if you set the default at a lower tier like 36% or 50%, that’s mostly what you'll get. Despite our best intentions, few of us would opt up, often just because of inertia or the busyness of life.

Industry studies reveal there is **overwhelming public support** for renewable energy, and people are willing to pay more for it. I've heard from a number of council members in CPA cities, that with elections coming up, supporting clean energy is **politically popular**. Customers **want cleaner energy and they want it now**.

As you know, California passed legislation which targets 100% clean energy by 2045. Now, consider this…the 100% default gives cities an opportunity to **achieve that goal 25 years ahead of schedule**! Simply by setting the default at 100%, communities like Oxnard could be powered by close to that amount as early as the middle of next year when service begins.

The projected cost difference for the 100% option is 7-9% more than Edison’s base rate, but the renewable content is 66% more. That’s a very **compelling return**, anda small price to pay for **long-term benefits**. While there’s a slight rate savings of just 0-2% in the lower two tiers, they have far less renewable content, so we must consider the costs of externalities like more polluting emissions. The perception of saving a buck or two in the short term is a dangerous illusion.

And what’s noteworthy is the provision allowing **CARE and other low-income customers to participate in the 100% plan at no additional cost**in those jurisdictions with a 100% default.

The default isn't a rate hike, it isn't a mandate, it's not forcing anything on anyone, it's simply making a suggestion. **Customers have the freedom and ability to choose another plan**according to their own priorities. **Why would you want to suggest anything other than clean energy for your community?**

In closing, this is likely one of the **biggest impact decisions** you will make for your community. Renewable energy is now readily available and affordable, we just need to **start choosing it**.

It would be fantastic to have Oxnard join the other member agencies doing 100%, and help**lead the way to a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable tomorrow**.

Thank you.