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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **Cupertino City Council Gives Green Light to a Greener Grid**

*Cupertino, CA- December 2, 2015* - Last night, the Cupertino City Council voted unanimously to join the Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority (SVCEA), a new nonprofit public agency that will offer clean energy alternatives for residents and businesses across Santa Clara County. Through this action, the City of Cupertino becomes the first of twelve possible agencies to join the SVCEA, which will operate as a Community Choice Energy (CCE) program.

CCEs create a new way to buy cleaner, greener electricity including solar, wind and biomass at competitive rates. SVCEA will maintain a partnership with PG&E to provide transmission, distribution, and customer service. All customers will continue to receive the same electric service and service reliability as before, without interruption. Those who prefer to have PG&E continue to buy their electricity can choose that option.

“While nations discuss what should be done for the environment, Cupertino is already doing it,” said former Cupertino Mayor Rod Sinks. “Our city council’s decision to join the authority is the single most important action our community can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We are enabling Silicon Valley communities to have more renewable power, more local control, more choice and competition, and greener businesses and homes.”

Cupertino joined the cities of Mountain View and Sunnyvale and Santa Clara County to create the Silicon Valley Community Choice Energy Partnership. These funding partners cooperated with eight other cities to complete a technical study, which confirmed the viability and rate competitiveness of the effort. The remaining eleven agencies must decide to join the Authority by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Service could start as early as the winter of 2017.

To learn more, visit the Partnership’s website at [www.svcleanenergy.org](http://www.svcleanenergy.org).

Cupertino, CA, is on the western edge of Silicon Valley against the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains. With a population of 60,000 within 13 square miles, Cupertino is 42 miles south of San Francisco and home to many high-tech companies, most notably Apple

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