

# local power

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**For Immediate Release:**

**January 22, 2004**

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## **CPUC Decision Hands Community Choice Advocates Big Win Door Open for Renewables Buildout in California**

In a last minute midnight compromise decision brought about by pressure from AB117 sponsor Carole Migden, San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano and Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, The California Public Utilities Commission voted 5-0 to adopt an electric utility procurement framework that will leave room for Community Choice Aggregation and renewable energy.

The decision approved a utility procurement framework phasing in utility contracts, limiting the amount of power the utilities buy and the speed at which they buy it, leaving space for San Francisco, San Diego, Marin County, and dozens of other California cities seeking to escape utility procurement to aggressively develop renewable resources and energy efficiency technologies.

Hunters Point activists and other San Francisco residents, Sustainable Novato, Sustainable Mill Valley, Fairfax activists and local officials joined Local Power and Ratepayers for Affordable Green Energy in asking the Commissioners not to order utilities to overbuy power contracts that would make California dependent on foreign natural gas.

On December the CPUC was prepared to approve a five year contract authorization that would have locked in available power plant capacity and put ratepayers on the hook for 100% gas-fired capacity. Commissioner Lynch, seconded by swing vote Commissioner Geoffrey Brown and Commissioner Carl Wood, credited coalition members for educating the Commission on the negative impacts of their previous procurement plan, whose December 18 decision was delayed to January 8, delayed again until today, redrafted, then rewritten into a new draft last night.

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