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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Alameda County Issues Request for Proposals for Large Collaborative Procurement of Renewable Energy**

Alameda County today released a Request for Proposals for the largest collaborative procurement of renewable energy for public agencies in the nation. The Regional Renewable Energy Procurement (R-REP) Project will bring clean, renewable energy to up to 187 sites including community centers, libraries, fire stations, medical facilities, city halls and educational facilities across 19 Bay Area public agencies. Approximately 31 megawatts of power will be developed at public facilities in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties through the installation of solar panels on rooftops and carports, fuel cell power generation systems, and solar thermal applications. If all sites are developed, these projects will effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the amount generated by over 6,300 average-sized homes for an entire year.

“Under Alameda County’s leadership, this collaboration will save participating agencies administrative costs and the large-scale purchase will lower pricing for those agencies,” noted Supervisor Keith Carson, President of the Board of Supervisors. “We are also excited that this project is expected to create hundreds of well-paying jobs for workers in Alameda County and neighboring counties.”

Agencies will also realize sustained reductions in utility operating costs through the use of power from renewable sources.

“This outstanding collaboration highlights several of our priorities here in Alameda County, including sustainability and green energy production, as well as productive partnerships that enable us to maximize the return on the tax dollars we invest,” said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator.

Alameda County will conduct a two-phase solicitation for the R-REP including a Request for Qualification, and then a Request for Proposals from the qualified firms. All agencies participating in the project were involved in the review of the Request for Proposals and associated contract documents. The R-REP vendors will be selected through a fair, open and competitive bid process.

Unlike many renewable energy solicitations conducted by local government, a tremendous amount of technical data has been collected relating to each site and will be made available as part of the RFP to qualified bidders. The sites included in the solicitation are grouped into nine bid bundles based upon a set of criteria including technology type, size, location, and various other criteria. Optony, Inc. and Newcomb Anderson McCormick are assisting the County with technical consulting, and KNN Public Finance of Oakland, a division of Zions First National Bank, is a financial advisor on the project.

The project has already generated significant interest from the vendor community; a request for information released in June 2013 received over 100 responses.



### **Opportunity for Local Job Creation**

The R-REP has the potential to have a significant impact on the local labor market for solar PV, solar thermal, and fuel cell system designers, installers, electricians, general contractors, and other skilled positions. A recently completed analysis of the project found that 839 jobs in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties will be created as a result of the initiative if all 187 sites included in the solicitation are developed. The potential for job creation in Alameda County alone is 672 jobs. A separate study using a National Renewable Energy Laboratory economic model resulted in similar findings on the potential for job creation across the four counties.

Recognizing the potential for workforce development as a result of the project, the Request for Proposals requires that all bidders submit a workforce plan demonstrating a Good Faith Effort to achieve 40% local hiring and describing their partnerships with local community colleges, apprenticeship, bridge programs, and other organizations engaged with the community in workforce development.

Through its regional leadership, Alameda County, working as Lead Agency along with two regional nonprofit organizations, Joint Venture Silicon Valley and the Contra Costa Economic Partnership, will bring renewable energy to communities throughout the Bay Area, achieving power through collaboration. These regional organizations helped launch the initiative through outreach efforts and by hosting educational forums to assist interested local governments in assessing the opportunities for renewable energy projects sited on government owned property assets.

To view the RFP online, please visit [http://www.acgov.org/gsa\\_app/gsa/purchasing/bid\\_content/contractopportunities.jsp](http://www.acgov.org/gsa_app/gsa/purchasing/bid_content/contractopportunities.jsp)