



# FACT ..... OR ..... fiction

CATEGORY	STATEMENT	FACT OR FICTION	EXPLANATION
Financial	MCE is an additional cost.	Fiction	MCE is not an additional cost. MCE's cost replaces PG&E's generation costs.
Financial	CCAs are for-profit entities.	Fiction	CCAs are not-for-profit public agencies.
Financial	MCE changes its rates every few months to ensure the prices are consistent with the cost of energy.	Fiction	MCE typically changes rates once per year or less. MCE can only change rates through Board approval which is typically considered once a year at the end of the fiscal year or budget setting time. MCE has not changed its Light Green rates since 2023. For a small subset of commercial customers, demand charges increased 4.4% in early 2025 to align with cost of service. The Board approved a \$0.25 increase to the Deep Green premium in mid-2025, from \$.01/kWh to \$.0125/kWh, the first rate increase for Deep Green in MCE's 15 years of service.
Financial	MCE is funded through tax dollars.	Fiction	MCE is financed by the revenues received from our customers based on the electricity they consume. As a self-funded, not-for-profit public agency that does not use any tax dollars, we also ensure that any financial benefits directly serve the community.
Financial	Unaudited quarterly financials and audited annual financials are essentially the same thing.	Fiction	Unaudited quarterly financial statements are interim updates which rely on the best available data including preliminary estimates and accruals pending invoices. They offer an indicative, but incomplete picture of MCE's finances. Audited annual financial statements go through a comprehensive external review process by professional independent auditors. This ensures that all figures are verified and fully reconciled. While unaudited quarterly statements can be useful for monitoring recent trends, the audited annual financial statements provide the definitive financial results.
Financial	MCE is able to post financial results immediately after a quarter closes.	Fiction	Three months are needed to provide accurate data due to time lags inherent in the electricity sector. Settlement data from the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) is for load, and generation is typically finalized and billed approximately 70 business days after the trade date. This delay, combined with the complexity of the multitude of customer programs MCE has and lags with certain energy supplier invoices, creates the need for roughly a three-month window before unaudited financials can be finalized.
Financial	MCE can just buy less power if demand goes down.	Fiction	MCE purchases most of its power in advance under fixed-price agreements and must pay for the power regardless of customer usage. Therefore, lower sales do not translate to lower energy costs. If MCE were to reduce power supply hedging, short-term savings could occur when sales or spot prices are low. However, if market prices exceed projections due to extreme weather events or unusual market dynamics, MCE would be exposed to extremely high real-time market prices for all unhedged loads.
Financial	MCE can provide all cost and sales information publicly.	Fiction	Disclosing specific prices and quantities for power purchases could create a new "floor" in the market, reducing MCE's negotiating leverage in future contracts with power suppliers or buyers.
Financial	MCE's Board of Directors does not receive any salary, payment, or benefits for being on the Board.	Fact	MCE does not pay Directors. The Board of Directors is composed of elected city, town, and county officials who represent each of the communities that MCE serves.
Financial	MCE experiences some of the highest delivery charges and PCIA fees in the state, which are the major drivers of total bill costs to customers.	Fact	MCE's generation rates fall squarely in the middle across all 24 CCAs and the three investor-owned utilities. The largest factors impacting MCE customer bills are PG&E charges, such as PCIA fees, which are higher for MCE than most other providers.

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Financial	MCE's budget reports, audited financials, and unaudited financial statements will not always match.	Fact	MCE's budget reports divide MCE's finances into four separate budgets while the financial statements show consolidated activity across all of them. MCE has four budgets including: the Operating Fund, the Energy Efficiency Fund, the Program Development Fund, and the Resiliency Virtual Power Plant Fund.
Financial	MCE does not provide all contract terms publicly.	Fact	Revealing the terms of MCE's prior or existing contracts would allow counterparties to see what MCE has agreed to, limiting flexibility and negotiating power in future supply agreements. Contract terms remain confidential until at least three years after contract execution.
Financial	MCE publishes all unaudited quarterly financial statements, audited annual financial statements, and annual budgets on its website under "Key Documents".	Fact	All of MCE's financial statements can be found online at <a href="https://mceCleanEnergy.org/key-documents">mceCleanEnergy.org/key-documents</a> .
Board and Governance	MCE Board members are appointed by MCE's CEO.	Fiction	The Board of Directors is composed of elected city, town, and county officials who represent each of the communities that MCE serves and are appointed by each jurisdiction to represent them on MCE's Board.
Board and Governance	MCE's Board of Directors are responsible for policy decisions that impact MCE's rates, power purchasing, and governance.	Fact	MCE staff operate under the purview of MCE's Board of Directors, which determines policies, provides guidance on long-term agency priorities, and sets rates. MCE staff implement policy, make recommendations to the Board based on their expertise and industry standards, and support customer engagement.
Board and Governance	MCE's Board of 34 members had 14 new members join in 2025, replacing Board members who rotated off the Board.	Fact	MCE's Board members are not selected by MCE to serve on the Board; they are appointed by their city or town councils or county Board of supervisors. There is no prerequisite for experience, and there is frequent turnover.
Power Supply	MCE is not as green as it claims; it purchases unbundled RECs as a cheap way to reduce the carbon intensity of its portfolio.	Fiction	Unbundled RECs (i.e. RECs purchased separately from the corresponding renewable energy electrons) do not factor into the power mix or greenhouse gas intensity reported in the California Energy Commission's annual Power Content Label.
Power Supply	MCE's greenhouse gas accounting methodology misrepresents the carbon intensity of its resources.	Fiction	MCE accounts for greenhouse gas emissions in compliance with state regulations. When the state transitions to 24x7 renewable energy accounting MCE will also transition.
Power Supply	MCE replaces PG&E for your entire energy service.	Fiction	MCE replaces PG&E for your energy generation service only. All MCE customers are also PG&E customers, because PG&E is responsible for transmission, delivery, and billing of electricity.
Power Supply	Monopoly markets are more capable of delivering reliable energy supply.	Fiction	Competition drives prices down, creates more choice for customers and decreases risk of blackouts.
Power Supply	MCE energy does not go directly to customers' homes or businesses.	Fact	MCE buys electricity that goes into the grid. MCE customers receive their electricity from the distribution system. The flow of individual electrons cannot be controlled or tracked on the grid. That is why energy providers within the CAISO forecast customer usage and schedule how much electricity is put on the grid.
Power Supply	MCE provides 60% renewable energy while PG&E provides 23% renewable energy.	Fact	MCE has more than double the amount of renewable energy sources in its energy compared to PG&E.