California law permits cities, counties, and joint powers agencies within the service territory of an investor owned utility to implement a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program which allows them to become the provider of electricity for customers within their jurisdiction. We advise public entities regarding all aspects of the formation and operation of CCAs and represent them before the California Public Utilities Commission and other agencies such as the California Independent System Operator and California Energy Commission.

Our Public Power attorneys are active members of the Power Association of Northern California, Energy Bar Association, Conference of California Public Utility Counsel, Mayors’ Council on Pipeline Safety, and California Municipal Utilities Association. Our prominence in California’s power community ensures clients that our legal advice reflects the most recent developments and trends in this evolving area of law.

PUBLIC POWER AND CCA PRACTICE

Meyers Nave has decades of knowledge and experience in the state and federal laws that affect the generation, storage, transmission, and procurement of power in California. We have relationships with regulatory bodies statewide and advise cities, counties, special districts, and private entities on issues that involve coordination with public utilities. We have helped clients accomplish everything from licensing and building generating facilities, to contracting for wind and solar energy that serves public facilities, as well as evaluating, structuring and implementing CCAs.

In addition, Meyers Nave has served for over 10 years as legal counsel to Northern California Power Agency, a 16-member JPA that purchases, aggregates, and manages electricity for 600,000 customers, which gives us insight in negotiating power purchase agreements and understanding the multijurisdictional operating framework for electricity providers.

Meyers Nave offers a multidisciplinary team on a comprehensive range of legal services related to public power and the formation and operation of CCAs, including:

- Electric power generation, clean energy projects, and power purchase agreements
- Environmental law, including CEQA/NEPA for power generation facilities, and GHG compliance
- Construction, licensing, siting of facilities

- Transmission and interconnection agreements
- CPUC safety and regulatory matters
- Natural gas distribution and storage
- Public contracts and procurement
- Public agency law, including open meeting and freedom of information laws
- Labor and employment law, particularly new public agency start up issues

REPRESENTATIVE COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION EXPERIENCE

- Meyers Nave is the City Attorney for numerous municipalities that are participating in CCAs or evaluating future participation:
  - El Cerrito, Larkspur, Pittsburg and Walnut Creek (served by Marin Clean Energy CCA)
  - Cloverdale, Cotati and Windsor (served by Sonoma Clean Power)
  - South San Francisco (served by Peninsula Clean Energy)
  - Dublin, San Leandro and Union City (developing a CCA through East Bay Community Energy)

- Meyers Nave served as Special Counsel to the City of Santa Rosa in reviewing the joint powers agreement with Sonoma Clean Power.

- Meyers Nave serves as Special Counsel to Pioneer Community Energy to establish a CCA program for Placer County, the Town of Loomis, and the Cities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln and Rocklin.