

# Silicon Valley Clean Energy

Yesterday we got a flier in the mail from **Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE)**. I was about to recycle it when I noticed the following paragraph:

## **You're in!**

In July 2017, you'll be receiving 100% carbon-free electricity\*—you don't need to do a thing. SVCE enrollment is automatic, but you can opt out to remain with PG&E.

I read that a few times then turned to the fine print. Here's what I saw.

## **OPT OUT**

You may request to opt out of SVCE electric generation service at any time by calling (844) 474-7823 or at [SVCleanEnergy.org](http://SVCleanEnergy.org). Please have your PG&E account information on hand to process your request. There is no fee to opt out before your SVCE service starts or within 60 days after your SVCE service starts. After that time, there is a one-time administrative fee (\$5 residential and \$25 commercial). Please be advised that if you do opt out and return to PG&E, you will not have the option to return to SVCE for a full year and will be subject to PG&E's terms and conditions of service. Additionally, PG&E requires that SVCE customers use

Yeah, I know that's hard to read. Imagine how difficult it is for us old folks.

So here's the summary. **Beginning in July we will be automatically switched to SVCE unless we opt out.** My lovely wife keeps up with local politics and knew that SVCE had been formed. But the automatic enrollment was a surprise to her – and not a pleasant surprise at that.

Any doubts about California being the nanny state have now been erased. Frankly, this is outrageous. **We are being asked to buy a pig in a poke – except that the swine will be automatically delivered at an unknown price unless we do something.** As far as I can tell there are no long-term price guarantees. And if some of the “green energy” subsidies are removed, watch your bill soar. (Of course I'm not talking about California subsidies. Those will stay in place until the sun goes supernova. But the federal tax subsidies are

another matter entirely.)

For those who are curious, images of both sides of the mailer and a pdf version are below. The image files are pretty big, so be careful where you click.

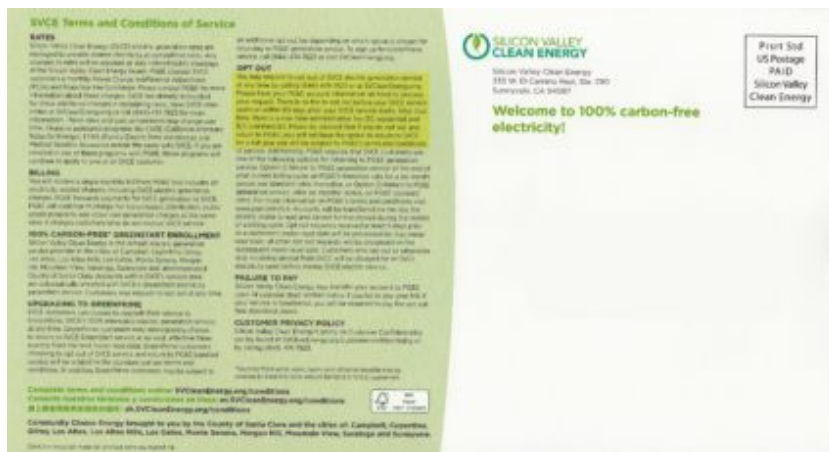
pdf:

[SVCE flier](#)

Images:



(click for larger image)



(click for larger image)

