

Rec'd at Meeting <u>1/28/2020</u>
Item No. <u>3.1</u>
From: <u>Nancy Calkin</u>

Dear Members of the Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Talulah Juniper and I am a freshman at Sonoma Academy. I am writing this letter to persuade you to vote in support of the Evergreen Program, which will make tremendous strides in bringing 100% local renewable energy to Santa Rosa.

There are so many issues that we as a city and as a nation face, and it can seem hard to focus on climate change when there are so many seemingly more pressing concerns to give attention to. However, this is the one uniting problem that we all must face, not just as a nation, but as a species. This means that every single small city and town and county must do their part to eradicate their impact on our climate and world. If we don't face this right now, then there will be no social issues, or wars, or attacks, or camps for us to try to fix, because there will be no more human life. We need to wake up and start doing everything we possibly can, and that can start with this Program. As a student, I am doing everything I know to do to aid our climate, but there is only so much a 14-year-old can do. This is why I must reach out to my local government and plead that you use your positions of power to help us all. You have control over our futures, and over that of our pets, our children, and our children's children. I ask that you do your part, so that I may once again aspire to a career and a family. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Talulah Juniper



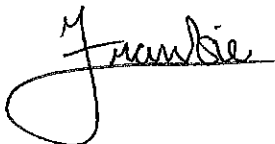
Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

I'm Frankie Grimm, a 15 year old climate activist that has only recently been shown how our world will be affected if we do not take action. We are in a state of climate emergency. My generation has lived in fear and fought for our futures and planet earlier than we should've had to. Companies and previous generations have decided that this is our fight. My friends and I seem to be fighting harder than most people in power, which is a terrifying thing to see. Cotati and Sebastopol have both declared a climate emergency, so why shouldn't Santa Rosa? Having a state of emergency declared could open up jobs around climate action and help to save our planet. The Evergreen Program will help our community, and our planet, in a number of ways. Please understand the effects that an unchecked climate will have on the human race. We need your help, as does our planet. It is a cruel and unkind thing to be ignorant to this cause. The Evergreen Program can help us. Please let them help us.

I want to go to college in Southern California, it's sunny, fun and I have family down there. It's also not too far from home and yet I still worry. Fires have been raging through California more than ever in these past 3 years. I worry that I won't be here to help my parents when they need to evacuate. I worry that I won't know what to do if I must evacuate in college. Maybe it's my anxiety that has me spiraling or maybe it's that my generation has been disproportionately affected. When my generation has the ability to vote, it may be too late. What if we don't at all improve and we cannot come back from this anymore? It is not just our responsibility to fight, it's yours too.

Sincerely,

Frankie Grimm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frankie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "F" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

I am writing to acknowledge climate change. It not only affects my generation, but the generations before me and after me. I am aware and grateful for everything the city of Santa Rosa has done to improve on this issue. My goal is to be able to convince you to switch to the Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen program. A great advantage of using this program would be the benefits for our community. It is 100% local and this program would be able to create sustainable jobs for people while also fighting climate change. This small difference can make a huge impact to the city of Santa Rosa by saving money. If we do not not switch to this program, potentially climate related disasters could rise. Beneficially, switching will bring more awareness to the United States making Santa Rosa a leading example.

I personally am concerned for my future and my brother's future. The thought of another fire disaster gives me stress and anxiety affecting my friendships, family, and school. I remember the Tubb's Fire and all my friends who were displaced. It was almost as if our lives were all put on pause because of this disaster. As a result, all we could do is sit, wait, and be patient. I feel as though I am responsible to help enforce change for the future. I am lucky to have this freedom to write this letter by hopefully influencing you. Furthermore, we are lucky to have this opportunity to direct change by switching to Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen, all we have to do is take charge.

Izabella Santos

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Izabella Santos". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I".

Sonoma Academy

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Keira Engdahl and have recently been exposed to the Sonoma County lifestyle of living in fear. Fires and floods have destroyed the paradise that Sonoma County once was. The fires of 2017 and 2019 caused the population to feel scared during the entirety of "fire season". I live in Novato, Marin County and luckily, my family hasn't been directly affected by either of the major fires yet. The fire that burned a total of nine acres was just across the highway from my house and that was one of the most nerve wracking experiences of my life. Nine acres was nothing compared to the 77,758 acres burned in the most recent and devastating Kincade Fire. I can't even begin to imagine the amount of stress and adrenaline coursing through the veins of someone that's woken up at 4:00am to get evacuated from their home. An entire life's belongings shouldn't have to be packed into a suitcase and driven somewhere "safe". During the devastation of the Tubbs fire, I was basically unaware as to how intense these fires can get. This fire was sadly in a very densely populated area and it burned 5,643 structures. This was before I had to commute by train to Sonoma everyday so I had yet to realize that Santa Rosa and Napa County were a lot closer to home than I thought. I vividly remember sitting in the car with my father going to my middle school in San Rafael and asking him, "Dad, why is the sun red?" The sun was covered in smoke.

Climate change in our world is clearly happening and in order to make any difference, we have to start somewhere. The Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen program is the most sustainable option for our environment. Choosing to use local, renewable power only, will reduce the human element of the exacerbated natural disasters that the county has already seen. This choice is economically safe and will help the county in the long run. Fires and floods are expensive. Millions of dollars to something that we could potentially end. We need Santa Rosa to embark on making an effort to a future that isn't blurred by the smoke in the air. If and when Santa Rosa declares a climate emergency, Santa Rosa will be another city to look up to. We will be the set example of a county that takes action when and where action needs to be taken.

Sincerely,

Keira Engdahl

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keira Engdahl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "K".

Dear members of the Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Jack Jacobs. I am 15 years old and climate change is bad. We will be facing these consequences for many years after you are gone. Something has to be done. I want to be able to live a whole life without having to worry about climate change and greenhouse gas. We must act immediately by using renewable energy and making our city more sustainable.

You have to make the decision to switch Santa Rosa to Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen Program. If we do it, the rest of the country will follow. The city has created a climate action plan, which made a great impact on our carbon emissions. I have an electric car, but it is important that I use renewable energy to charge it or it is a waste. Going with the plan will save us tons of money as well as saving the earth. It will eventually even out, and any doubt of it will take to long is unimportant because saving the earth is better than worrying about a timeframe of when it will be done. The Evergreen program will also give jobs to the local economy, and switching to it will make us a model city in the U.S. and will convince other cities to switch to renewable energy. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jack Jacobs

Jack Jacobs

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Madeline Twomey. I am 15 years and currently enrolled as a student at Sonoma Academy. I am extremely troubled by climate change and its effects that soon will become a reality. I have only just been introduced to what climate change is and how it will affect the earth in the years to come. I have become very concerned in recent months as to why the city of Santa Rosa hasn't taken more action to help resolve climate change in any and every way possible.

I believe that switching Santa Rosa the Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen program will not only help the earth but help the community living in Santa Rosa. Local Renewable is incredibly crucial in helping to create local jobs and overall improve the local economy. The Evergreen program removes greenhouse gas emissions by promoting local solar projects instead of relying on existing hydroelectric power. The Evergreen program would help take action against climate change in Santa Rosa and hopefully spur other surrounding cities to do so as well. I strongly encourage you to educate the public on climate change as well as the effects of climate change. 40% of greenhouse gas emissions come from actions at the household level. I know first hand that there is no way for someone to take action on a topic that they don't understand. You need to call a state of emergency to make sure we don't take action a little to late. As a community, we owe it to ourselves and future generations to do everything in our power to help preserve our home, the earth.

Sincerely,

  
Madeline Twomey

November 13, 2019

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Ekaa Sood and I'm a 15 year old student at Sonoma Academy. I'm writing to you today to implore you to support the Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen Program. Climate change is a prevailing issue nowadays, and this situation will continue to worsen without intervention or action. It has now crossed the line from a small problem that we will face in the future, to a current crisis that will have a global impact. It also creates many financial problems, mainly resulting from all the climate-related natural disasters that have been occurring more and more frequently. The estimate cost for the Tubbs fire was 1.2 billion dollars, and if we don't make a change now, this issue will increasingly worsen.

The Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen Program is the perfect option to start making an impact. Santa Rosa has already begun to take the steps towards making a change, but we can't stop here. Not only will switching to Evergreen save our planet and help financially, it will also make Santa Rosa become an example for other cities in the United States. We cannot sit and wait for someone else to take care of this — we must take action ourselves.

My generation has the heavy weight on our shoulders to rectify this situation — we now have this responsibility to handle. This is a matter very close to my heart, because I lost my home in the 2017 fires here in Sonoma County. It was an devastating loss, and the memories of having to evacuate at one in the morning, to seeing our home completely demolished, are still fresh in my mind. And now recently we had another bout of fires occurring, causing me and many of my friends to suffer from anxiety or PTSD from our past experiences. My generation, and the generations after me, may not have the opportunity to have a proper future if we don't do something now. Young children shouldn't have to suffer from anxiety attacks from natural

Dear members of the Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Tabatha Stewart and I am a sophomore at Sonoma Academy. I am writing you today to urge you to vote in support of the Evergreen Program which will bring 100 percent local renewable energy to Santa Rosa.

Last year, I missed 5 days of school from climate change-related natural disasters (smoke from the Butte County fires and floods). Those were 5 days of indispensable education that I will never get back. I fear for my future and the future of my peers who have been continuously missing more and more school days every year, and are still expected to perform the same, if not better, than students in the past, who never faced these issues.

I feel that climate change is a generational issue, but every generation seems to be passing this burden on to the next generation until we run out of time. We are now running out of time, and my generation has drawn the short straw. How are we supposed to create a brighter future if our education is stolen by our changing earth? Please vote to approve the Evergreen Program to help save my future.

Sincerely,

Tabatha Stewart (Age 15)



October 2, 2019

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Quinn Potter. I am a 15-year-old student at Sonoma Academy. This letter sets out to explain why the city of Santa Rosa needs to switch to the Evergreen 100% Local renewable energy plan.


I believe that Santa Rosa should change to the Evergreen Program. This program provides 100% renewable energy through a combination of solar energy and geothermal power. The extra cost is only 2.5 cents per kilowatt-hour, and in the long run, it will be much cheaper. Once fossil fuels start becoming scarce, they will gain a massive premium. With a dwindling resource, costs increase. We don't want to be stuck paying for coal, oil, and natural gas when they reach the point of bankrupting our county. The better choice is to switch now and start saving costs. Furthermore, switching to renewable energy will open up many jobs in the green energy sector. By saving money and creating new jobs we can help our economy and our environment at the same time. Public health is also a big issue that could be improved with a switch to renewable energy. Fossil fuels greatly worsen the air quality of industrial areas. People could suffer from respiratory problems because of the quality of our air. Green energy improves the environment, which in turn improves our quality of life.

The world is going to change, and we will have to adapt. Switching now will let us capitalize on energy sources that won't run out any time soon. It's cheaper in the long run, more reliable, sustainable, and helps stop the global climate crisis that will continue with the use of fossil fuels.

Quinn Potter

  
Sonoma Academy

Justin Koida

  
Sonoma Academy

October 2, 2019

Dear Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee,

My name is Julia Cameron and I am a 15-year-old sophomore at Sonoma Academy. Today I am writing to you to tell you about a problem affecting our globe. This problem is so big that if we do not end it soon it will be irreversible. This problem is climate change.

I lived in Petaluma for six years and have lived in Sonoma County all of my life. From my perspective, I feel that climate change action in Santa Rosa will make the biggest impact in Sonoma County. The proposed switch to Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen Power will make such a huge impact in our community that will prevent my generation and future generations from devastation worldwide but specifically also in our own community. I am lucky but have people very close to me who have been affected by the fires. I have seen how hard of an impact they have left on people's lives and I know that you have also.

If we take action by switching to Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen Power we can fix this problem now, and by taking a stand against this we can influence other counties, states, and eventually other counties to take a stand as well.

I am terrified of what we will be facing if we do not take action now and on behalf of my generation, I am begging you to please use your power to take the burden off of our shoulders while we still have the time to. Otherwise, more lives will be lost and more suffering will occur in future generations than ever before.

Thank you for your time and consideration in knowing that you can make a difference that will help us in this fight against climate change.



Julia Cameron

Sonoma Academy