

An aerial photograph of a vast vineyard at sunset. The rows of grapevines are neatly planted in terraced rows across rolling hills. The sky is a mix of purple, orange, and blue, with distant mountains visible on the horizon. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

GeoZone

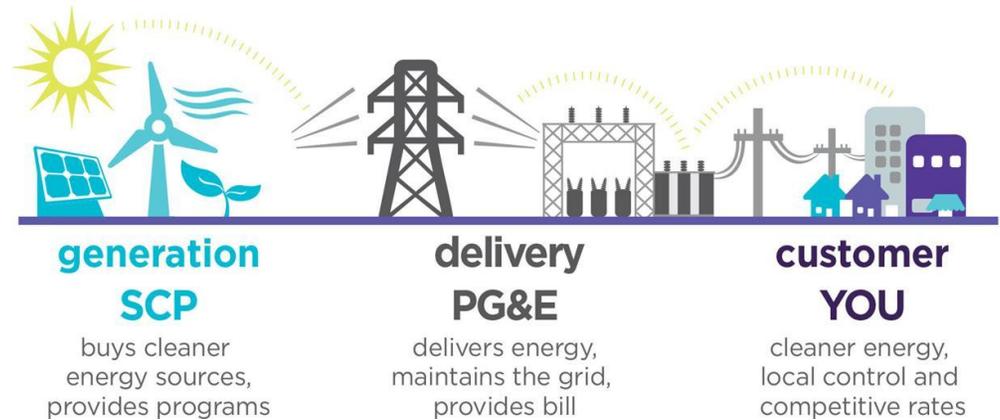
Affordable, Reliable, Clean Energy for Our Community

The logo for Sonoma Clean Power, featuring three stylized, wavy lines in yellow, green, and blue.

**Sonoma
Clean Power**

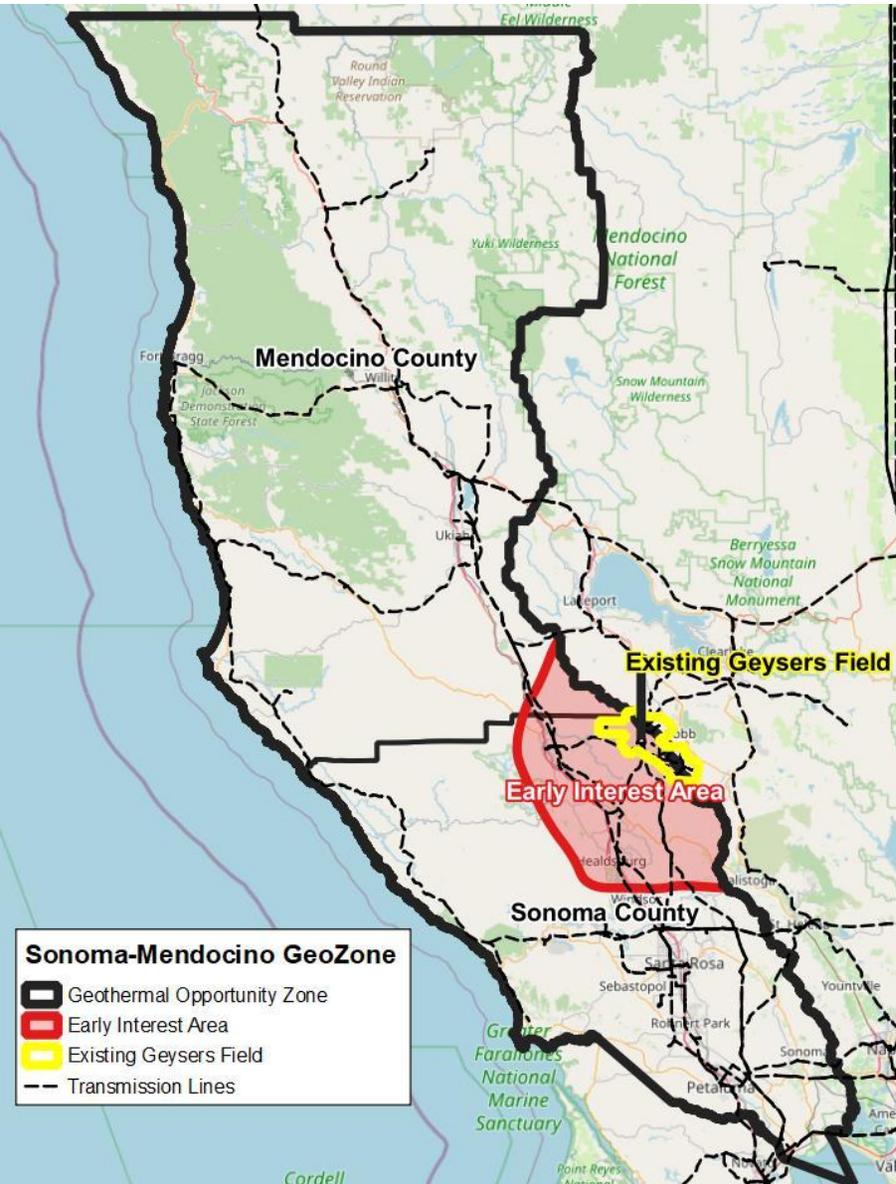
Sonoma Clean Power

- Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) serving Sonoma and Mendocino counties.
- Provides electricity generated by cleaner energy sources at a competitive cost.
- Offers tailored customer programs and greater reinvestment in local communities.



GeoZone

- Partnership between Sonoma Clean Power and the counties of Mendocino and Sonoma.
- Our effort to build 600 megawatts of new, next-generation geothermal energy over the next decade.
- Geothermal power can generate clean energy 24/7 and replace natural gas on a large scale.



Challenge

- When the sun's not shining, wind isn't blowing, and batteries are depleted – **we need more clean “baseload” power.**
- California still relies on natural gas power plants to keep our lights on – major health and financial costs.
- The high costs of energy and electricity bills.
- The demand for electricity continues to grow.



Strategy

- Identified next-generation geothermal as the most viable solution for SCP and California.
- In 2022, issued a Request for Information to identify potential developers; 3 selected.
- Criteria included:
 - Minimal water and land use
 - Commercial scalability
 - Compatibility with local community values
- Discovered significant legislative and regulatory barriers to geothermal development.
- Partnered with academia and the geothermal industry to drive momentum.

Opportunity

- Developers are building next-generation geothermal projects...but not in California.
- Local geothermal development would help SCP:
 - Lower customer costs
 - Secure reliable local energy
 - Create good-paying, highly skilled jobs
 - Direct millions of dollars into the local economy
 - Provide 100% clean power, day or night, rain or shine



Community Engagement

- Presentations and meetings with local community groups, government agencies, and key partners.
- Building relationships with Tribes, labor, and environmental organizations.
- Town Hall meetings for the public.
- Monthly updates to SCP's Board and Community Advisory Committee.



What We've Heard So Far

- Mostly positive reception - electricity is too expensive, and we need more clean, reliable power.
- General questions and concerns around:
 - Seismicity/safety
 - Holding private partners accountable
 - Impacts of construction on nearby communities
 - Water and land use
 - How new technologies differ
 - Ensuring public oversight



Value of Local Leadership

- More opportunities for the public input, outside of CEQA or required engagements.
- Accountability of elected officials and leaders.
- Coordinated, clear expectations for developers.
- More avenues for feedback and project oversight.
- Community ownership and long-term visioning.



Legislative Efforts

- Reduce roadblocks for developing new geothermal in California.
- Sponsored AB 1359 last year, which was signed into law by Governor Newsom.
- Sponsoring three bills this year:
 - AB 526 (Papan) – held on suspense file
 - AB 527 (Papan)
 - AB 531 (Rogers)



Regulatory Efforts

- Held a transmission summit and legislative briefing in July 2025.
- Advocating at the CPUC for proactive transmission planning, transparency, and affordability.
- Emphasizing importance of geothermal at the CEC in SB 100 and other processes.
- Identifying public funding opportunities to de-risk early development.



Thank you! Questions?

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