

California's Direct Access Program

Purchasing Electricity in the Open Market



ecom-energy

What is Direct Access?

- **Direct Access (DA)** is an electric service that allows customers to purchase their electricity directly from **third party providers** instead of from a regulated electric utility.
- The **utility continues to deliver electricity** and provides all safety related services regardless of which electric supplier the customer chooses.



History

- The California Legislature **suspended** the Direct Access program in **September 2001** during the California Energy Crisis.
- In **2010**, **Senate Bill 695** provided for the limited reopening of the Direct Access market for **non-residential customers**.
- California's electric utilities now accept requests to enroll in Direct Access through an **annual lottery process**.



Direct Access Lottery

- Utilities assign a random number to approved *Six Month Notice* applications.
- This random number determines the applicant's position for available places within that utility's Direct Access load cap. If a customer's load moves the utility above the indicated cap, they are placed on a waitlist.



Enrolling in the Direct Access Lottery

- Electric utilities will be accepting *Six Month Notices* from **June 11- June 15, 2018**.
- Those interested in participating in the Direct Access lottery should **contact Ecom-Energy** no later than **May 15, 2018** to ensure adequate application processing time.
- All *Six Month Notices* will be entered into a lottery to determine their random numerical position on the 2019 waitlist for any load that becomes available.



Why Enroll?

NO OBLIGATION

Enrolling in the Direct Access lottery does not bind the customer to any energy contracts or force them to purchase from a third party if selected.

FREE

Enrolling in the Direct Access lottery is a no-cost endeavor.

SAVINGS POTENTIAL

Direct Access customers enjoy the cost savings and budget certainty that come from freedom of choice.

