# SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

**TO:** Board of Directors **AGENDA NO. V-B**

**FROM:** Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: April 3, 2014

**SUBJECT: DISTRICT ELECTRICAL POWER OPTIONS**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Receive a report on District electrical power options and give direction to staff.

**FISCAL IMPACT: None**

**DISCUSSION:**

On February 4, 2014 the District received a letter from Sonoma Clean Power (SCP). The letter informs us that as of May 2014 the District will automatically start with the SCP CleanStart power option unless we choose otherwise. According to the letter the options appear to be:

- CleanStart which is 33 percent renewable energy and costs 2-3 percent less than PG&E 20 percent renewable service.
- EverGreen which is 100 percent renewable service for a premium of $0.035 per kilowatt hour or about 20 percent extra.
- Opt out – stay with PG&E standard service.

This item was discussed at the March Board meeting and the Board asked for more information on the costs of these options. I have called and emailed SCP requesting information on their rates and the costs to the District and they have been very helpful. I gave them actual energy usages from our El Bonita well field from winter and summer PG&E bills. Table 1 shows the energy costs differences from the three alternatives (CleanStart, EverGreen and PB&E)

**Table 1. Comparison of Energy Costs at the El Bonita Well Field**

| | Energy Use (kWh) | CleanStart | EverGreen | PG&E | %PG&E-CleanStart | %EverGreen-CleanStart |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Winter | 23,979.92 | $ 2,163.50 | $ 3,002.69 | $ 2,263.50 | 4.6% | 38.8% |
| Summer | 21,734.84 | $ 2,450.50 | $ 3,211.15 | $ 2,574.50 | 5.1% | 31.0% |

The costs in Table 1 are the costs of energy which are typically about 50% of the total cost at these sites. All the other costs will remain the same; thus, the actual savings by percent will be about half: based on these examples, CleanStart will be about 2.5% less expensive than the current PG&E costs; EverGreen will be about 15-20% more than CleanStart.