

Bay Area Local Renewable Power Map

Key Programs, Projects, Reports and Stakeholders Compiled for Climate Bay Area by Bruce Riordan

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I. Key Bay Area Projects and Programs

Marin Clean Energy — Marin Energy Authority

The first “community choice aggregation” program in the Bay Area. In the CCA approach, local governments band together to purchase power for their communities—determining the energy mix, owning generation assets, etc.—while PG&E continues to maintain the transmission system and provide customer service. The [Marin Energy Authority](#), composed of 8 cities and the County of Marin, now provides 28% renewable energy to its customers at competitive rates (compared to 17% renewables for PG&E). MCE also offers Deep Green, a 100% renewable energy product, for 1¢ more per Kwh. In business since May 2010, the initial rollout covers 8,000 residents. At full rollout, the program expects to have 70,000 customers.

Three other Bay Area local governments seriously pursuing [community choice aggregation](#):

CleanPowerSF — San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

San Francisco’s version of community choice aggregation, currently in the planning stage, expects to eventually provide 100% renewable energy to San Francisco residents and businesses. The program is being developed by the SFPUC, in conjunction with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), the Board of Supervisors, energy consultants and community groups. In mid-October, the SFPUC and LAFCo both took action to authorize the General Manager of the PUC to continue development of CleanPowerSF and to negotiate a contract for procuring green energy on the open market while conducting studies that could lead to building local renewable resources in San Francisco.

Sonoma Clean Power

The Sonoma County Water Agency, at the direction of its Board just completed a [detailed feasibility study](#) of the CCA approach for Sonoma County. In mid-October, the supervisors

[voted 5-0](#) to accept the report and directed the SCWA staff to conduct six months of additional research and analysis, reporting back in April 2012.

City of Richmond

The City Council is spending \$40,000 to [analyze the feasibility](#) of joining Marin Clean Energy and to gather and analyze data on their own electricity demand.

[Silicon Valley Renewable Energy Project \(SV-REP\)](#)

Phase I of the SV-REP Project is currently the largest multi-agency procurement of renewable energy in the United States, involving 70 sites at 43 locations, and collaboration across 9 public agencies (County of Santa Clara, cities of Milpitas, Cupertino, Morgan Hill, Pacifica, and Mountain View, Town of Los Gatos, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, and the South Bayside Waste Management Authority). The carport, rooftop, and ground-mounted systems will be located at community centers, city halls, fire stations, police stations, office buildings, senior centers, libraries, clinics, and other publicly-owned facilities. SV-REP was launched by Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network's [Public Sector Climate Task Force](#), in partnership with the County of Santa Clara in 2007. The SV-REP project was created to address three of the major challenges regarding public sector adoption of renewable energy in an era of diminished financial resources, including: high upfront costs associated with the purchase and installation of these technologies, the considerable transaction costs involved in conducting competitive bid processes and developing agreements, and the general lack of understanding of financing options and available incentives. The goal of the SV-REP project was to address these challenges via a regional collaborative effort utilizing a standardized Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) financing model, lease agreements and procurement process.

[HELiOS Project \(Helios Energy Lights Our Schools\)—KyotoUSA](#)

HELiOS is a Berkeley-based project of KyotoUSA aiming to eventually get solar power installed on every California school. HELiOS and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory recently completed solar master plan site assessments for all schools in the Berkeley, Oakland and West Contra Costa school districts.

There are a number of excellent Bay Area local renewables projects at Bay Area schools, including:

[San Jose USD](#)—5.5 MW on 14 sites

[Milpitas USD](#)—3.4 MW on 13 sites

[San Ramon Valley USD](#)—3.3 MW on 5 sites

[Dixie Go Solar](#)

The *Dixie Go Solar* initiative is a coordinated effort by the Dixie School District, Marin Community Foundation and Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI) to accelerate their climate protection efforts through the installation of 4 photovoltaic (PV) electric systems totaling an estimated 307 kWac at the four schools encompassed in the district. As of March 2011 all of the systems are generating approximately 80% of each individual school's annual electricity needs. In order to leverage the learning opportunity of the Dixie solar project, SEI is providing energy and solar curriculum for the District, leading student Energy Teams, as well as training teachers at each school to effectively incorporate this clean energy curriculum into the classroom.

SolarTech Project

SolarTech is an initiative of Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) whose goal is to resolve the technical and market barriers that hinder the widespread adoption of solar energy for residential and commercial systems. SolarTech is a working consortium, composed of active member companies from across the solar industry, ranging from manufacturers, integrators and financiers to educators, local governments and utilities. Together, members lead the six SolarTech committees to identify best practices, apply them to standardized procedures, and develop tools and processes. SolarTech member companies are leaders, combining their resources to shape the solar industry.

Oakland Solar MOSAIC

The Ella Baker Center, Rebuild the Dream, Sungevity, Green for All and other strategic partners have launched this project to create local jobs and prosperity through a new crowd-sourcing model for financing clean energy development. Individuals purchase \$100 shares (called “tiles”) that are combined to pay the upfront costs of solar installations on community buildings in Oakland. The building owners pay a set price for the electricity generated over a long-term contract. Through lower electricity bills, building owners save money. The facility owners eventually return the share values to the “investors.” The first phase of the project is creating community solar power for 7 community buildings in Oakland.

Solar Community Gardens (SB 843)

Bay Area-based E2, Oakland-based Renewable Funding, Clean Path, and others are pushing SB 843 (Wolk) in the California legislature. SB 843 would greatly expand the number of electricity customers that can participate in renewable energy programs to include renters, people living in multi-family units, small business, public entities and people who lack sufficient credit or do not have an appropriate roof for roof-top solar. SB 843 accomplishes this through market competition without any state subsidies. Electricity customers can move and have the benefit applied to their new location since there is no equipment required at the electricity customer’s site. The bill would set up a financial system in which individuals purchase shares in a solar facility away from their home. Participants pay a set amount for their share of the solar electricity generated and receive a equal credit off their normal PG&E bill.

East Bay Green Corridor Solar Permitting Project

In late 2010, the *Green Corridor Principals*, including the Mayors of 8 cities, voted to develop a regional standardized solar energy permitting process as the group’s top policy priority to help increase efficiencies, drive the local solar PV market & boost the regional economy. The Green Corridor’s progress thus far includes documenting current permitting practices in the region, identifying possible technical and procedural improvements, convening solar industry leaders and partnering on a successful DOE industry consortium grant led by SolarTech to develop a *scalable national platform* for solar PV permitting, inspection and interconnection.

Sonoma County RESCO Project (Renewable Energy Secure Communities)

The Sonoma County RESCO project, funded by the California Energy Commission, began in August, 2009. The purpose of the project is to develop and demonstrate a model for a locally owned, cost-effective renewable energy (RE) portfolio that helps meet the county’s greenhouse gas reduction goals. The focus is on the integration of mature renewable energy resources and efficiency measures together with demand response to prepare Sonoma County to advance to

the implementation stage of this RE portfolio. Several efforts are moving forward in parallel:

- Designing a renewable energy portfolio for the County that identifies opportunities for distributed generation and demand reduction.
- Developing a system dynamics model of energy use and CO2 emissions across several County sectors.
- Designing and building a pilot project to showcase several renewable energy technologies to offset local demand.
- Designing County governance structures and financing instruments to implement the plan.

[Solar Sonoma County](#)

Solar Sonoma County supports solar and energy efficiency-related policy issues, educates and trains community members in these fields, advocates for a rapidly growing industry, and acts as a clearinghouse for clean energy activity in Sonoma County. SSC is consortium of local businesses, elected officials, city governments and individuals who are dedicated to reducing greenhouse gases through the installation of solar and energy efficiency applications.

[Sonoma County Energy Independence](#)

Sonoma County's Energy Independence Program is a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program for property owners to finance energy efficiency, water efficiency and renewable energy improvements through a voluntary assessment. These assessments will be attached to the property, not the owner and will be paid back through the property tax system over time, making the program not only energy efficient but also affordable. As of September 2011, SCEI has funded over \$51 million in improvements through 1,715 projects. More than half of these projects included renewables generation.

[Santa Clara University Smart Grid Project](#)

SCU is on course to become the first university in the Bay Area to install a smart microgrid, which ties its power source, transmission, distribution, and consumption data to weather reports, thereby maximizing energy savings. The power source can be solar, wind, or geothermal. The smart microgrid can also deliver data in real time and measure carbon emissions. In the event of a major power outage, SCU would be able to remain operational, even during prolonged periods of time, and generate enough electricity to power nearby homes and businesses. In the first phase of the project, SCU installed sub-meters into 14 buildings and integrated the smart microgrid's onsite alternative energy sources, such as solar, fuel cells, and micro-turbines. When the next phase is completed in late 2011, the entire campus will be connected to the microgrid, reducing energy consumption by 50 percent and saving the University about 20 percent in energy costs. The project is a collaboration of SCU, Sustainable Silicon Valley, Cisco, and Serious Energy.

[San Francisco Department of the Environment Renewable Power Program](#)

The San Francisco Department of Environment has been supporting local solar market development as a US DOE Solar America Cities grantee since 2007, providing outreach and education to residents and business owners, creating the [SF Solar Map and Wind Map](#), and developing innovative financing models for renewable energy projects, including the Solar@Work and Solar@School aggregated financing projects. The department also supports the development of emerging technologies like ocean power and urban wind, and is developing a plan to make the city 100% renewable energy powered.

[City of Oakland Solar Installations](#)

The City of Oakland has installed 1 Megawatt of solar electric panels on the rooftops of the Municipal Service Center and the downtown ice rink. These panels provide approximately 2.3% of the municipal electric load.

[City of Berkeley Solar and Renewables Program](#)

Berkeley, which pioneered what became the national PACE financing program, offers a range of solar and renewable services to its residents and businesses, including [Berkeley Solar Map](#), and the [Residential Solar PV Permit Guide](#). Berkeley also participates in the two-county [Smart Solar](#) program, which it originated.

[Small Cities Climate Action Partnership](#)

The Small Cities Climate Action Partnership (SCCAP) is a coordinated effort by the cities of Piedmont, Albany, El Cerrito, and San Pablo with technical assistance by Strategic Energy Innovations to accelerate their climate protection efforts. SCCAP is funded in part by EPA to pursue municipal greenhouse gas reductions. As part of this effort the SCCAP cities have contracted with Optony Inc. to do a small scale aggregated purchasing project. Initial Site Assessments identified 1 MW of solar potential in this aggregation. The project is currently in the contract development phase with an anticipated RFP release date of February.

[Carbon Free Water By 2015](#) — **Sonoma County Water Agency**

As the largest energy user in the county, the Sonoma County Water Agency has committed to the goal of operating a carbon free water system by 2015. To achieve this goal, the Water Agency is actively working to diversify its energy portfolio and reduce its energy and fuel needs through efficiency and renewable energy production.

[Literacy for Environmental Justice EcoCenter](#) (San Francisco)

The EcoCenter is the first environmental justice education facility in the Bay Area and San Francisco's first 100% “off-grid” building, modeling solar power and alternative wastewater technologies. The center utilizes a green roof, solar panels and wind turbines, and an energy efficient design.

II. Key Bay Area Reports On Local Renewable Power

[Community Power—Decentralized Renewable Energy in California](#)

Community Power, by Al Weinrub of the Oakland-based Local Clean Energy Alliance, argues that local, decentralized generation of electricity offers many benefits to California’s communities relative to large central-station solar or wind power plants in remote areas. The report identifies the factors that favor local decentralized generation of electricity: its economic benefits to local communities, its cost-effectiveness, its minimization of environmental impacts, its potential to

rapidly meet renewable energy targets, and its increased system security. The paper also identifies obstacles to local renewable power and outlines policies that can promote its development.

[In Our Backyard—How to Increase Renewable Power Production on Big Buildings and Other Local Spaces](#)

This report is based on a June 2009 symposium held at Berkeley Law in June 2009 that brought together leading renewable energy suppliers, policy advocates, public agency leaders, and large private company representatives. The symposium identified and prioritized the most critical barriers to promoting widespread decentralized generation on large and buildings and other local spaces. The paper identifies the immediate and longer-term actions that government leaders, private industry, and public agencies must take to address the barriers. The key finding is that policy makers must expand and improve the net metering and feed-in tariff incentive programs.

[Local CLEAN Program Guide](#)

This comprehensive guide, produced by the Bay Area-based Clean Coalition, is designed to help communities and local utilities evaluate, design, and enact CLEAN Programs (Clean Local Energy Accessible Now) based on global best practices and the expertise developed by the Clean Coalition through their work throughout the U.S. The guide is comprised of seven free modules that will step readers through the process of designing and enacting successful CLEAN Programs at the local level. Modules 1, 2 and 7 are currently available.

Bay Area Smart Energy 2020 (coming in late February 2012)

The Bay Area Smart Energy 2020 plan, currently under development by **Error! Reference source not found.** and to be released in early 2012, will provide a detailed road map for the Bay Area to develop a clean energy portfolio. The report is based on a similar analysis conducted for San Diego, [San Diego Smart Energy 2020](#).

[Governor’s Conference on Local Renewable Energy Resources](#)

The Governor’s conference, held at UCLA in late July, used a number of “discussion papers” on a range of key issues for the expansion of local renewable power in California. See the conference agenda for links to these short, but powerful summaries of key issues. A conference summary report is currently being produced.

[Economic Benefits of a Feed-In Tariff](#)

This 2010 report by Dan Kammen and Max Wei at UC Berkeley analyzes the economic benefits of a California Feed-In Tariff vs. a “business-as-usual” scenario of renewable energy supply. The reports finds that the Feed-In Tariff will create three times the number of jobs in California from 2011-2020, increase direct state revenues by an estimated \$1.7 billion from taxes over the next decade, and stimulate up to \$50 billion in total new investment in the state.

[Local Permitting Reform](#)

Two reports make the case for solar permitting reform in the Bay Area and elsewhere—AECOM’s [Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis of Residential Solar Permitting Reform \(2011\)](#) and SunRun’s [The Impact of Local Permitting on the Cost of Solar Power](#).

III. Key Bay Area Issues and Groups Addressing Them

A. Develop better energy storage systems to support intermittent sources of renewable power.

- California Energy Storage Alliance (CESA)
Berkeley-based CESA is a broad statewide coalition, founded in 2008 by Janice Lin and Don Liddell, committed to expanding the role of energy storage to promote the growth of renewable energy and a more affordable, clean, and reliable electric power system.
Janice Lin, 510 665 7811.
- Joint Venture Silicon Valley Energy Storage Initiative
Supports and facilitates growth of the energy storage industry in Silicon Valley, works to eliminate market challenges, including policy roadblocks, and hosts the annual Silicon Valley Energy Storage Symposium. Rachel Massaro, massaro@jointventure.org (on maternity leave until January)

B. Improve financial strategies and instruments to expand customer demand and affordability.

Feed-In Tariffs

- Clean Coalition, Ted Ko, ted@clean-coalition.org, Stephanie Wang, steph@clean-coalition.org
- Pacific Environment, Rory Cox, rory.cox61@gmail.com
- Marin Clean Energy (currently provides its own Feed-in-Tariff) Dawn Weisz, dweisz@marinenergyauthority.org, Damon Connolly, damon@damonconnolly.com
- Local Clean Energy Alliance, Al Weinrub, al.weinrub@comcast.net, Kirsten Schwind, kirsten@baylocalize.org

On-Bill Financing

- Local Clean Energy Alliance, Al Weinrub, al.weinrub@comcast.net, Kirsten Schwind, kirsten@baylocalize.org
- **Regional Climate Protection Authority/Climate Protection Campaign**, on-water bill financing pilot, Chris Cone, ccone@climateprotection.org

Net Energy Metering

- SunRun Solar, Ethan Sprague, ethans@sunrunhome.com

“Solar Shares” off-site financing programs

- [Oakland Solar Mosaic](#), Contact TBD
- [Solar Community Gardens](#), Cisco DeVries, Renewable Funding, cisco@renewfund.com
- **Marin Clean Energy Solar Shares**, Dawn Weisz, dweisz@marinenergyauthority.org

Renewable Energy Plant Ownership

- [City of Berkeley](#), [East Bay Green Corridor](#), and financial partners, Contact: Nils Moe, City of Berkeley, nmoe@ci.berkeley.ca.us

C. Streamline and standardize [permitting and inspection procedures](#).

- [East Bay Green Corridor](#), Carla Din, carla@eastbayeda.org
- Doug Payne, [SolarTech](#), dpayne@solartech.org
- Ethan Sprague, [SunRun Solar](#), ethans@sunrunhome.com

D. Address [grid interconnection issues](#) for significant renewables expansion.

- **Clean Coalition**, Ted Ko, ted@clean-coalition.org

E. Expand [Community Choice Aggregation \(CCA\)](#) programs to create more demand for renewable energy and to serve as local “test-beds” for innovative pilot programs.

- [LEAN Energy US](#), Shawn Marshall, shawnmarschall@leanenergyus.org, or Megan Mattson, meganmatson@leanenergyus.org
- [Climate Protection Campaign](#), Ann Hancock, ann@climateprotection.org, Woody Hastings, woody@climateprotection.org

F. Other issues

- TBD

IV. Bay Area Local Renewable Power Stakeholders (October 2011)

There are a number of groups working with Bay Area local governments and utilities to create a local renewable power future for the Bay Area:

[Bay Area Climate Collaborative](#): BACC works toward a vision of a more prosperous, healthy and vibrant community based on clean energy and action on climate through fostering strategic alignment, market acceleration initiatives, and best-practices education. Contact: Rafael Reyes, rreyes@baclimate.org

[Bay Area Council](#): The Bay Area Council supports changes in California’s energy policy to create a reliable supply of energy for the region with a market-driven structure that lowers costs. In recent months, the council has worked on strategies for renewable energy financing. Contact: Andrew

Michael, amichael@bayareacouncil.org

Bay Localize: Established in 2006, Bay Localize is a project of the [Earth Island Institute](#) that works to inform citizens and communities about sustainable and resilient communities policies. Contact: Kirsten Schwind, kirsten@baylocalize.org

Berkeley Law Center for Law, Energy & Environment: Working with government, business, and the non-profit sector, the Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) addresses the most pressing environmental and energy challenges of our time at the state, local, and national levels, drawing on the combined expertise of faculty and students at Berkeley Law and across the UC Berkeley campus. Contact: Steve Weissman, sweissman@law.berkeley.edu

Clean Coalition: Originally founded as the FIT Coalition in early 2009, the Clean Coalition is a non-profit whose mission is to make clean local energy accessible now. The organization's top goal is to implement policies and programs that accelerate the adoption of cost-effective clean local energy. Contact: Ted Ko, ted@cleancoalition.org; Stephanie Wang, steph@cleancoalition.org

Climate Protection Campaign: Sonoma County-based organization that has led on climate protection for nearly a decade by working in partnership with governments, businesses, youth and the broader community to enact policies and programs on energy and climate. Contacts: Ann Hancock, ann@climateprotectioncampaign.org; Woody Hastings, woody@climateprotectioncampaign.org.

East Bay Green Corridor: Established in 2007, the East Bay Green Corridor is a partnership of eight cities and four research and education institutions, committed to creating a thriving region of green technology innovation, commercialization, and economic development. Contact: Carla Din, carla@eastbayeda.org

Golden Gate University School of Law Environmental Law and Justice Clinic: The clinic represents community groups and non-profits in proceedings advocating for clean energy policies to mitigate climate change, improve the environment, and reduce the environmental burden in low-income and communities of color. Contact: Deborah Behles, dbehles@ggu.edu

Global Exchange: San Francisco-based Global Exchange's Local Clean Energy Program works to accelerate community-based solar power, wind power, and other clean renewable energy technologies and the green jobs they generate. The program works to help enact policies that bring greater local control, democracy, and incentives for clean power. Contact: June Brashares, june@globalexchange.org

Joint Policy Committee: The JPC coordinates the regional planning efforts of ABAG, MTC, BCDC, and BAAQMD, the four major regional planning bodies for the Bay Area. Current JPC initiatives are focused on economic development, accelerating the Bay Area's energy transformation, preparing the region for climate change, and the development of the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SB375). Contact: Bruce Riordan, bruce@elmwoodconsulting.com

Joint Venture Silicon Valley: A forum bringing together Silicon Valley leaders to work in teams on

critical initiatives including climate prosperity, disaster preparedness, economic development, federal partnerships, the Grand Boulevard and wireless communications. Contact: Kelly Krpata, krpata@jointventure.org

[KyotoUSA](#): An all volunteer, grassroots organization based in Berkeley that encourages cities and their residents to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). A current focus is on getting renewable energy systems into public schools. Contact: Tom Kelly, KyotoUSA@sbcglobal.net

[Local Clean Energy Alliance](#): LCEA is a coalition of nonprofits, businesses, and community groups working to advance strong climate protection plans and clean energy policies to improve local air quality and community health, and create clean energy jobs and pathways out of poverty for low-income families. Contact: Al Weinrub, al.weinrub@comcast.net

[Marin Energy Authority](#): The Marin Energy Authority (MEA) is the not-for-profit public agency formed by the County of Marin and eight other towns and cities that administers the Marin Clean Energy program. MEA was created in December 2008 following six years of careful study and review in more than 200 public meetings and hearings. Contact: Dawn Weisz, dweisz@marinenergyauthority.org

[National Resources Defense Council](#): Founded in the 1970s by a group of law students and attorneys, the National Resources Defense Council uses law, science and the support of 1.3 million members and online activists to protect the planet's wildlife and wild places and to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all living things. Contact: Noah Long, nlong@nrdc.org

[Pacific Environment](#): A non-profit organization that protects the living environment of the Pacific Rim by promoting grassroots activism, strengthening communities and reforming international policies. Contact: Rory Cox, rory.cox61@gmail.com

[Renewable Funding](#): Delivers innovative financing tools for renewable energy and energy efficiency installations to residential and commercial property owners, and is an industry leader in the turnkey administration of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs. Contact: Cisco DeVries, cisco@renewfund.com

[San Francisco Department of Environment](#): The San Francisco Department of Environment designs and implements programs and policies to support the development of a local solar industry and the deployment of renewable energy in the City and County of San Francisco. Contact: Adam Stern, adam.stern@sfgov.org or Danielle Murray, danielle.murray@sfgov.org

[San Francisco PUC](#): The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission designs and implements programs and services to provide energy, power and water to the City and County of San Francisco. Contact: Barbara Hale, bhale@sfwater.org or Michael Campbell, MCampbell@sfwater.org

[Sierra Club](#): The Sierra Club's San Francisco Bay Area Climate & Energy Team is working to lower greenhouse gas emissions in Bay Area cities through energy and climate action plans and other measures that provide for local sustainable green economic development and green-collar jobs. Contact: Ed Mainland, emainland@comcast.net, or Al Weinrub, al.weinrub@comcast.net

[Solaria](#): Fremont-based company designs, develops, and manufactures industry-leading silicon PV products. Solaria's cell multiplication technology maximizes the energy yield of silicon PV, accelerating the cost savings to make solar energy competitive in the world market. Contact Bruce Dickinson, bdickinson@solaria.com

[Solar Tech](#): SolarTech is an initiative of Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) whose goal is to resolve the technical and market barriers that hinder the widespread adoption of solar energy for residential and commercial systems. Contact Doug Payne, dpayne@solartech.org

[Strategic Energy Innovations](#): Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI), a nonprofit organization established in 1997, helps empower schools and universities, small businesses, local governments, affordable housing agencies, and rural communities to reduce pollution and save money through energy and resource efficiency, green building and green workforce education and training. SEI is a Marin County-certified green business, and a minority, women-owned business.

[SunRun Solar](#): San Francisco-based company that provides solar services to residential and commercial customers across the U.S. SunRun has been active in policy circles including the need for [standardized permitting](#). SunRun Contact: Ethan Sprague, ethans@sunrunhome.com

[Sustainable Silicon Valley](#): SSV engages Silicon Valley organizations to proactively work toward self-imposed goals of reducing regional CO2 emissions and water use, and helps them translate those goals into measurable results, through educational forums for the public and technical assistance to member organizations and by serving as a clearinghouse to share best practices through ongoing meetings. Contacts: Marianna Grossman, mgrossman@SustainableSiliconValley.org and Arthur O'Donnell, energyoverseer@comcast.net