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Communities Push to Take Over Investor-Owned Utilities and Make them Public Nonprofits.

Advocates say public power can deliver cheaper rates and a faster, more equitable transition to clean energy. Still, the measures face long odds.

Activists pushing San Diego to take over the city's investor-owned utility aren't letting last year's defeat of a similar effort in Maine deter their goal of establishing a nonprofit power company. They recently submitted petitions bearing more than 30,000 signatures from residents who want the City Council to let voters decide the matter this fall.

Advocates say a municipal takeover of San Diego Gas & Electric would deliver cheaper rates and a faster, more affordable, and more equitable transition to clean energy. Still, the measure faces long odds from skeptical council members who have twice rejected similar proposals.

Continue reading.

Route Fifty

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Grist

MAY 31, 2024

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