



May 5, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, RM 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 914 (Friedman)—Electrical Infrastructure: California Environmental Quality Act  
As Amended May 2, 2023 – SUPPORT  
Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Chair Holden,

The Large-scale Solar Association (LSA), the California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA), the Independent Energy Producers Association (IEP) and the American Clean Power Association (ACP) write to express our support for AB 914 (Friedman), a measure that would help to expedite the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review for certain electrical infrastructure needed to support our climate and energy goals. Specifically, this measure would establish a two-year time limit for the lead state agency to complete the CEQA review for an electrical infrastructure project.

California faces unprecedented need for new renewable energy and storage resources in both the near- and long-term to meet the state's climate targets and ensure system reliability. This new resource build requires new transmission infrastructure to bring the power to load centers. The California Independent System Operator (CAISO)'s 20 Year Outlook for transmission planning estimates that more than \$30 billion in new transmission capacity will be needed by 2040.

AB 914 would take a small step forward in helping to expedite the electrical infrastructure needed to increase capacity and enhance reliability. This bill would also require a state lead agency under CEQA to report back to the legislature should a state agency fail to meet streamlining requirements, providing a new level of accountability to the CEQA process.

The status quo will not allow California to achieve the infrastructure build necessary at the pace and scale required to meet California's climate goals. While this bill is a small step towards a much larger goal, AB 914 will help us get closer to meeting our collective climate and energy targets. It is for these reasons that we respectfully urge your support of this bill.

Should you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact Shannon Eddy at 415-819-4285.

Sincerely,

Shannon Eddy, Executive Director  
Large-Scale Solar Association

Nancy Rader, Executive Director  
California Wind Energy Association

Jan Smutny-Jones, CEO & General Counsel  
Independent Energy Producers Association

Alex Jackson, Director, California State Affairs  
American Clean Power Association

cc: Members and Staff, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Laura Friedman