

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Chris Holden Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy State Capitol, Room 5132 Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: SB 520 (Hertzberg) – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Holden:

The California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA) is a 19-year-old trade association representing wind energy and related companies focused on the California market, primarily consisting of owners and operators of wind energy projects located in California.

I write on behalf of CalWEA to support Senate Bill 520 (Hertzberg), which would clarify existing laws and regulations pertaining to the "Provider of Last Resort" (POLR) function. Such clarification was recommended by the California Public Utilities Commission in view of the proliferation of load-serving entities (LSEs) in recent years and the need to ensure continuity of service and a reliable electric grid in the event that an LSE drops its customers. SB 520 sets clear and appropriately high standards for entities that perform the POLR function; those entities are not limited to the current investor-owned utilities in their respective territories. SB 520 would also promote the stability and continuity of electricity markets, and it would do so without the confusion and delay that would be associated with creating a new or expanded state agency to fulfill the POLR function.

Sincerely,

Warry Rade

Nancy Rader Executive Director

cc: Members and Staff, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee Senator Robert Hertzberg