



California Wind Energy Association

September 16, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 350 (DeLeon)

Dear Governor Brown,

The California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA) supports SB 350 (DeLeon) and respectfully asks that you sign this measure into law. CalWEA is a trade association representing wind energy companies focused on the California market. As one of the lowest-cost sources of renewable energy, wind energy currently accounts for 38% of the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) resources, with over 6,000 MW of generating capacity operating from Shasta to Imperial Counties, and many in between.

CalWEA strongly supports this bill, which would:

- Raise the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirement to 50% by 2030 on a clearly defined schedule;
- Preserve the current RPS program structure, continuing the market-based policy framework that has proven successful in geographically and technologically diversifying the electricity sector with renewable resources while driving down renewable energy costs;
- Continue to promote vigorous competition among renewable energy providers, while accounting for indirect costs, thus ensuring that the state's greenhouse gas goals are met while maintaining grid reliability and keeping electricity rates in check; and
- Create a schedule of penalties for noncompliance by retail sellers which penalties may not be collected through rates.

Since 2002 when the original RPS was first adopted, 4,500 MW of wind projects have been built. Wind energy is supporting California's economy, with an estimated 2,500 well-paying operating and maintenance, manufacturing, development, and other jobs, in addition to indirect job impacts and over 6,000 jobs during project construction. California hosts 15 manufacturing facilities supporting the U.S. wind supply chain. Wind projects also provide \$70 million in annual county property tax revenue and over \$18 million in annual lease payments to landowners, supporting farmers and ranchers.

Senate Bill 350 will allow the wind industry to continue to thrive in California. CalWEA is in strong support of SB 350 and respectfully requests this measure be signed into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Rader".

Nancy Rader
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Kevin DeLeon
