

December 13, 2010

Chairman Mary Nichols and Members of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Support for Voluntary Renewable Energy Set-Aside in the Proposed California Cap-and-Trade Program

Dear Chairman Nichols and Members of the Board:

The undersigned clean energy businesses, organizations, and environmental groups write to you in support of including a provision in the Cap and Trade Regulation to establish a Voluntary Renewable Energy Set-Aside.

We believe including such a provision will help to further stimulate innovation in renewable energy, thus promoting new businesses and job growth, as well as reducing pollution.

The proposed cap-and-trade program currently contains placeholder language indicating that a voluntary renewable energy set-aside will be part of California's emission trading program; specifically, placeholder language that would establish a voluntary renewable set-aside account (p. A-52) and the allocation to voluntary renewable energy allowance set-asides (p. A-77). Such a mechanism will provide crucial support for the continued growth in voluntary purchases of renewable energy in California in the years ahead.

Clean energy development provides a host of co-benefits, not least putting California in a better position to meet the State's post-2020 goals. In addition, following the WCI recommendations, renewable energy generated within California and sold into the voluntary market should be eligible for the set-aside.

We understand that the details of the mechanism will be worked out in 2011 and we look forward to continuing to work with CARB staff as they develop the details establishing the voluntary renewable set-aside account and the allocation of those allowances.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Ian McGowan
3Degrees

Sue Kateley
California Solar Energy Industries Association

Nancy Rader
California Wind Energy Association

Nick Lapis
Californians Against Waste

Elvira Ramirez
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton

Danielle Osborn Mills
Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies

Jennifer Martin
Center for Resource Solutions

Jamie Fine
Environmental Defense Fund

Varner Seaman
Horizon Wind Energy

Kristen Eberhard
Natural Resources Defense Council

Kyle Boudreaux
NextEra Energy

Jay Carlis
Renewable Energy Markets Association
Community Energy, Inc.

Bill Magavern
Sierra Club California

Rachel McMahan
Solar Millennium

Kari Smith
Sunpower

Polly Shaw
Suntech America

Sara Birmingham
The Solar Alliance

Erin Rogers
Union of Concerned Scientists