

August 6, 2015

**RE: COMMENTS ON THE CPUC/CEC/ARB/CALISO RENEWABLES SYMPOSIUM**

The California Chamber of Commerce appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Governor's Office Five Pillars Symposium discussing the 2030 climate change commitments.

The CalChamber is the largest broad-based business advocate in the state, representing the interests of over 13,000 California businesses, both large and small. Many of CalChamber's larger members are directly affected by climate change regulations, while many other smaller members will likely experience indirect impacts in the form of new costs passed down from upstream fuel and energy providers.

It is imperative that economics be taken into consideration when looking to increase the amount of energy procured from renewables. A comprehensive economic impact analysis should be considered when looking towards a goal of 50% renewables in California by 2030.

While we appreciate the value electricity from renewable resources can provide, we need to look at our current program requirements and evaluate where changes may need to be made. As illustrated by the infamous "duck chart" there is the potential for grid instability given our current mix of renewables. When looking beyond our current renewable mandates, we need to give consideration for regional coordination and flexibility for procurement mandates.

Whenever a new mandate is put on the procurement of energy, there is an associated cost increase. While the price for renewables has fallen since the renewable portfolio standard was signed into law, there are still numerous subsidies in place helping to make those technologies more comparable in price to traditional electricity generation. California ratepayers pay among the highest per kilowatt hour electricity rates in the nation and any additional mandates on renewable energy procurement will lead to increased costs for already high electricity rates.

Any increase in our current renewable procurement mandate needs to take into consideration the current needs of our grid as well as the cost to ratepayers. We hope we can continue to provide constructive feedback throughout this process as it is in the interest of all California businesses and consumers that we get this right. We appreciate your consideration and the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Amy Mmagu  
Policy Advocate