

Chris Erickson



08-10-2  
11/20/08

Good morning – I’m Chris Erickson, CEO of Climate Earth, a clean tech infrastructure startup based in San Francisco. I’m a businessman, former executive of a Fortune 500 company, and have taken a California company public. With more than 32 years in business, and as a member of The New Voice of Business, I fully support the complete – and even accelerated – implementation of AB32.

I say: Don’t slow it down – and, if you can, accelerate it.

The low carbon economy is the new “Silicon Valley phenomenon”. If California wants to keep its talent, and foster new creativity, innovation and job creation, while maintaining its global reputation and stature, this is it ... and AB32 is the needed spark. Already California holds this promise, and will be the home and the heart of the greatest economic shift on Earth – unless we let it go.

Some business people want to weaken AB32. I am here to say: Don’t do it!

What is needed now is strong support to get California – and the world – off of fossil fuels. I assure you, as AB32 rolls out with a strong and clear new direction, business people – all business people – will get down to business and adapt. That’s what we do.

AB32 will drive needed changes and promote job creation all through the California economy. It will create whole new, high-growth sectors, and it will also stimulate new jobs in older sectors like semiconductors, construction and transportation. My company’s products enable businesses to effectively monitor GHG emissions throughout their supply chain. Our forecasts say we can grow Climate Earth as much as ten times faster with AB32, than without. And Climate Earth is just one small example of the positive impact of this regulation.

Please understand: requesting government intervention is way out of my comfort zone, but this time, I feel strong government leadership is both required and helpful. We need a fundamental shift.

So don’t believe the dinosaurs ... unless you want California to become a fossil, too.

Thank You.