



CALIFORNIA BUSINESS ALLIANCE
FOR A CLEAN ECONOMY

December 19, 2017

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

California State Senate
c/o Kevin de León, Senate President pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

California State Senate
c/o Toni Atkins, Senate President pro Tempore-Elect
State Capitol, Room 4072
Sacramento, CA 95814

California State Assembly
c/o Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 100 (de León): California Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program: emissions of greenhouse gases

Dear Governor Brown and Members of the California State Legislature:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to express our strong support for Senate Bill 100, which would set a planning goal of achieving 100 percent renewable and zero-carbon electricity in California by 2045, and urge you to act early in 2018 to pass and sign this critical legislation into law.

Many of our business members and partners have supported the series of climate and clean energy policies that have made California a national and international leader in driving the clean energy economy. Furthermore, a number of California's leading businesses have made 100% renewable energy commitments themselves including Google, Apple, Facebook, Autodesk, and Fetzer Vineyards.

California has the largest advanced energy industry in the United States, employing one in every six advanced energy workers nationwide. Employment in that sector grew at 18 percent in 2015, six times the rate of employment growth throughout the state. In 2017, California employers project that advanced energy employment will increase by another 8 percent.

Additionally, for the fourth year in a row, we led the country in attracting clean tech investment in part because our policies drive demand for renewable energy, shifting the emphasis of corporate investors.

California is also the top state for solar jobs, employing 152,947 workers. More than 500,000 employees in the state spend some or all of their time engaged in advanced energy work, such as advanced electricity generation, energy efficiency, advanced grid technology, energy storage and advanced vehicles. SB 350's increase to 50 percent renewables by 2030 was estimated to create an additional 354,000-429,000 direct job years and a total of 879,000-1,067,000 total job years from the construction of new renewable generation.



CALIFORNIA BUSINESS ALLIANCE
FOR A CLEAN ECONOMY

A 2017 district-by-district fact sheet on the jobs and the economic benefits of California’s clean energy policies can be found [here](#).

Clearly, SB 100 will only expand these numbers. Much of this new employment is in California’s communities that have been hardest-hit economically. In the San Joaquin Valley alone, home to many of California’s more rural communities where unemployment has remained stubbornly high, recent studies show that construction on RPS-related projects created 88,000 total jobs and resulted in total economic impact of \$11.6 billion. By using climate adaptation and mitigation as economic drivers, we can spread these benefits to other rural regions of the state, as well.

While we support the climate and environmental goals of SB 100, as business leaders and organizations we enthusiastically embrace the economic engine that this bill embodies for California. The quality of these jobs has been and will remain high, supporting skilled workers with family-sustaining compensation and benefits.

California is already ahead of schedule to meet previous Renewables Portfolio Standard goals. The [November 2017 Annual Report on the Renewables Portfolio Standard](#), issued by the California Public Utilities Commission, finds that the state’s investor-owned utilities are on track to meet the 50 percent RPS by 2020, a full decade earlier than mandated by the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (SB 350, de León). But, with the need to reduce the pollution that impacts health and causes global warming growing more urgent every day, we need to raise the bar.

This remarkable momentum is coupled with strong public support for achieving 100 percent renewable electricity, as demonstrated in a [July poll by the Public Policy Institute of California](#) finding that 76 percent of Californians support SB 100, including overwhelming majorities across both parties.

For all of these reasons, we urge you to act swiftly in 2018 to pass and sign Senate Bill 100 into law. Doing so will be good for our economy, our health, and our environment. Moreover, it reaffirms California’s position as a global leader on addressing climate change and promoting clean energy technologies, setting a strong example for other states and countries to follow.

We thank you for your leadership and look forward to working with you on this historic legislation.

Sincerely,

Tim McRae, Vice President, Energy
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Amisha Rai, Senior Director, California Policy
Advanced Energy Economy

Kirsten James, Director of California Policy
and Partnerships
Ceres

Steve Frisch, President
Sierra Business Council

Bob Keefe, Executive Director
E2

Mary Leslie, President
LABC

Ruben Aronin, Associate Director
California Business Alliance for a Clean Economy

Cc: California Assembly Members