



Senate Bill 100 (De León) - SUPPORT

What would SB 100 do?

- **Increase RPS to 60% by 2030**—accelerate the requirements of the state’s primary renewable energy program—the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS)—from 50% to 60% by 2030.
- **Establish a goal of 100% zero-carbon electricity by 2045**—establish a new policy goal that all electricity produced to meet end-uses come from zero-carbon resources by 2045. The bill does not restrict what qualifies as zero-carbon, which allows for flexibility in how the goal is met and creates opportunities for innovative technologies.
- **Protect grid reliability and ratepayers**—Includes provisions to protect safety and reliability of the electricity grid and prevent unreasonable impacts to customer rates and bills.
- **Report to the Legislature**—Requires a report to the Legislature by 2021, and at least every four years thereafter, evaluating forecasts to achieving the policy goal, potential impacts on grid reliability, anticipated financial costs and benefits to utilities and ratepayers, and barriers to achieving the policy.

How do we get to 100% zero-carbon electricity?

Meeting 100% of California’s electricity needs with zero-carbon resources is a bold goal, but achieving it is within reach. California is on track to exceed its current 50% RPS before 2030 and we have the technology to run a flexible and efficient grid with even more renewables. Key tools and strategies to achieve this goal include:

- Greater use of energy storage technologies;
- Access to a wider and more diverse supply of renewable technologies;
- Flexibility of electricity users to shift demand; and
- Better coordination of renewable resources among Western states

What about costs?

The cost of renewable energy has dramatically declined in the past decade.¹ In fact, clean energy like solar and wind power is cheaper than natural gas, coal, or nuclear power. In addition, relying on zero-carbon resources will reduce California electricity customer’s exposure to the price volatility of natural gas.

Why pass SB 100 now?

Climate change is the biggest threat to the health and economic stability of Californians. Fortunately, our state has led the nation in the transition from coal to clean energy resources and demonstrated that a cleaner electricity system need not come at the price of a growing economy. The time is right to double down on this clean energy momentum.

For more information, contact:

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¹ Yale Environment 360. Cost of U.S. Solar Drops 75 percent in Six Years, Ahead of Federal Goal. September 13, 2017.