



California State Pipe Trades Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the California State Senate
Members of the California State Assembly

FROM: Scott Wetch, Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Electrical Workers
Coalition of California Utility Employees
California State Pipe Trades Council
Western States Council of Sheet Metal Workers

DATE: August 16, 2022

SUBJECT: **STRONG SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE PACKAGE:
Package Would Create Tens of Thousands of Construction Jobs**

The California State Pipe Trades Council, California State Association of Electrical Workers, Coalition of California Utility Employees and Western States Council of Sheet Metal Workers, urge your support and passage for Governor Newsom's Climate Package.

The aforementioned labor organizations have a proud history of supporting climate change legislation. This Coalition supported AB 32 and sponsored the legislation taking the Renewable Portfolio Standard to 33%, and have supported each subsequent expansion.

While there are certain provisions in the package that present challenges to segments of our membership, on balance the totality of the package combined with the unprecedented \$52 Billion in clean energy investments contained in the 2022-23 Budget Act, will create tens of thousands of high paying construction jobs.

Specifically, we believe that by accelerating the State's Green House Gas reduction targets and renewable energy generation benchmarks will result in massive new investments in energy efficiency and the construction of dozens of clean energy projects that have been stalled for the lack of power purchase agreements.

Moreover, these accelerated targets will create thousands of jobs not only in new renewable generation such as solar, geothermal, and wind, but in EV charging, transportation electrification, transmission, building electrification, energy efficiency, including heat pump installation, development of hydrogen as an alternative fuel, and pump storage to name a few.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE PACKAGE

Page 2

We cannot stress how critical the Carbon Capture and Sequestration framework is to not only meeting the 2030 and 2045 GHG reduction goals but providing potentially millions of work hours for the construction trades over the next decade. Currently, 79 viable CCUS projects have been identified that have the potential to capture 60 million metric tons of carbon, nearly 15% of the State's 2045 GHG reduction goals.

Moreover, the Governor's climate package would establish development of clean hydrogen as a priority for the State and would foster the development of the transmission infrastructure necessary to finally develop the Imperial Valley's vast geothermal and Lithium reserves.

In addition, we applaud the Governor's focus on safely and responsibly preserving the more than 2,200 MW of 100% GHG free baseload power provided by the Diablo Nuclear Power Station. While we recognize it's an interim, not permanent extension, we believe it's a critically important hedge against future energy shortfalls.

In conclusion, while we cannot endorse the inclusion of the oil well setback provision, we must advocate for what's in the best interest of our members. In the final analysis and on balance, the Governor's climate package will create tens of thousands of high paying construction jobs for years to come, and consequently we urge its passage.

Sincerely,



Scott Wetch
Legislative Advocate

cc:

All IBEW Business Managers

All United Association Business Managers

All Western States Council of Sheet Metal Workers Business Managers

All Coalition of California Utility Employees Business Managers