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California Governor Brown Announces Ambitious New Emissions Targets

Here is the text and a photograph from a breaking 29 April 2015 Sacramento Bee article announcing Governor Brown's ambitious new emissions reductions targets for California. As I note in my other docket entries and my 27 April 2015 citizen comments, the only practical and economical means of power generation capable of meeting these new targets is nuclear power, which can also be used to power the growing fleet of all-electric vehicles in California. Please visit the Californians for Green Nuclear Power (CGNP) website at <http://www.CGNP.org> to learn more.

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Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Jerry Brown issues more ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets

BY DAVID SIDERS (SACRAMENTO BEE BROWN ADMINISTRATION REPORTER)

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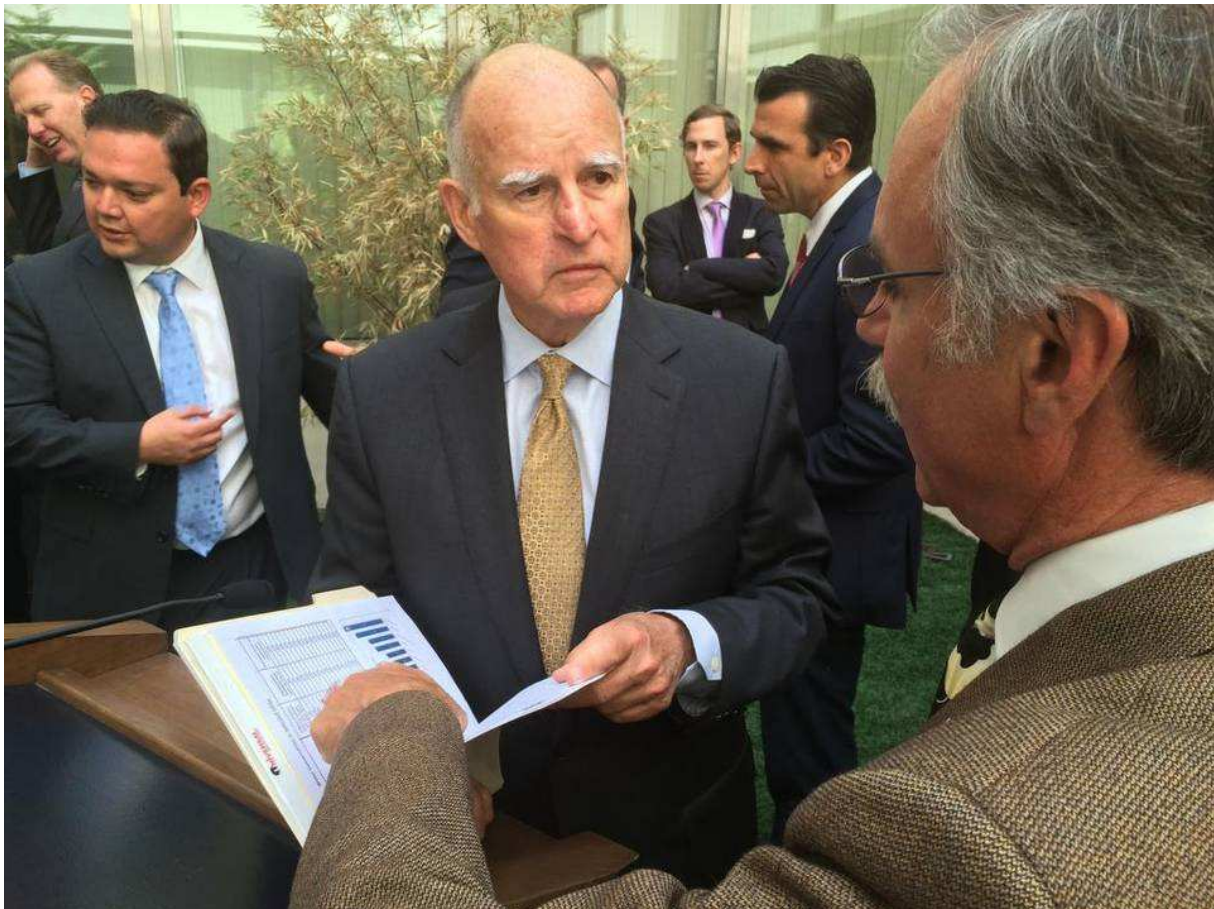
<http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article19857609.html>



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GAN Note: "Nuclear" is not found in this breaking news article. It should be.



v. Jerry Brown speaks with mayors of California cities after a news conference in Sacramento on April 28, 2015 Photo Caption Credit: David Siders

Establishing what he called a “high bar” on environmental policy, Gov. Jerry Brown on Wednesday issued a greenhouse gas reduction target for the state of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

The target, contained in an executive order, is in line with one adopted by the European Union last year. The Brown administration called the measure the most aggressive of any government in North America.

“With this order, California sets a very high bar for itself and other states and nations, but it’s one that must be reached – for this generation and generations to come,” Brown said in a prepared statement.

Brown has said California will meet or exceed its previous goal of reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and he cast Wednesday’s goal as an interim step to reducing emissions to 80 percent of 1990 levels by 2050.

In his executive order, Brown wrote the 2030 target is “necessary to guide regulatory policy and investments in California in the midterm, and put California on the most cost-effective path for long term emission reductions.”

Brown’s order requires the state to incorporate climate change impacts into California’s five-year infrastructure plan, to assess how climate change will affect California infrastructure and industry, and to factor climate change into state agencies’ planning and investment decisions.

In such decisions, Brown said in his order, “priority should be given to actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

The issuance of a more ambitious carbon reduction goal has been expected since last year, when Brown said in September that the state would meet its existing goal and that he would announce a new one within six months.

Brown, a longtime champion of environmental causes, has argued California’s policies – and climate change agreements forged between this state and other sub-national governments – could help pressure heads of state as they prepare to negotiate a climate change treaty in Paris later this year.

“I believe that from the bottom up we can make real impact, and we need to join together,” Brown said last year.

Christiana Figueres, the Costa Rican diplomat and executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, said in a prepared statement that Brown and California “have clearly understood, internalized and articulated the science of climate change” and have “aligned the state to the growing global understanding” of its challenges.

Brown proposed dramatically expanding California’s greenhouse gas reduction laws in his State of the State address in January, and Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León announced legislation the following month to enact much of his proposal.

The legislation would cut petroleum use in half by 2030 and to expand, from one-third to one-half, the proportion of electricity California derives from renewable sources such as wind and solar.

Brown’s office announced the goal as the Democratic governor traveled to the Los Angeles area to speak on climate change.

Brown is scheduled to address a conference on climate policy and carbon markets in Los Angeles this morning, followed by an appearance at a Milken Institute conference in Beverly Hills in the afternoon.