

## DOCKETED

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## **LOCAL DG and Efficiency are being ignored again**

Thank you for working on our urgent transition to renewable energy. This transition is long overdue and California is grateful for your dedication to the environment, economy and grid stability. As such, however, we must be certain that our environment, economy and grid stability are well served by the actions of this committee, and I am very concerned that any program that adds costly, wasteful, monopolist transmission, especially when it connects to sprawling, deadly power plants sited in our deserts and on our ridgelines is actually taking us in the opposite direction from where California, as a technological, environmental and progressive powerhouse needs to go.

I am of course referring to the endlessly missed opportunities that our built environment affords us to improve our electrical system without harming our environment, wasting ratepayer money, and perpetuating monopoly utilities which deplete local economies by redistributing our wealth to remote shareholders. It's the 21st century, time to outgrow the centralized extraction industry model (including desert-killing Big Solar and Big Wind) with gigantic wires strung across our landscapes; and instead develop dynamic, redundant, responsive, real-time LOCAL solutions in the form of microgrids, rooftop and other in-city solar generation, small storage, and major increases in energy conservation and efficiency. I'm talking "internet." You don't want to be talking "mainframe."

Even if we have to repurpose some of our existing transmission while we complete the transition to 100% local solutions, please focus on the EPA's Re-Powering America's Lands sites for those limited locations where remediation of toxic sites can be combined with existing transmission and excellent solar insolation to help us move more quickly towards our goals of increasing renewable energy in our grids. The DRECP ignores the science and it's poorly-designed DFA's are political designations which have no place in a conversation about saving the planet. You cannot kill that which you are claiming to save.

Driving Sage Grouse into extinction in Wyoming and hauling the resultant wind-generated electrons down thousands of miles of unreliable transmission lines to sunny sprawling urban locations in California, instead of just allowing residents to be fairly paid for solar power we produce on our own roofs - right where and when it is needed - has to sound as crazy to you as it does to the rest of us. Nobody enjoys a Rube Goldberg machine more than I do, but that doesn't mean we should turn our electricity system into one. Let's do what is fast, cheap, safe, reliable, clean and fair - increase the fees paid for production of excess solar power on ratepayer rooftops and parking lots, etc., increase energy efficiency, reward energy conservation, and improve our local microgrids and storage solutions.

Thank you for including my thoughts in the democratic process you are undertaking. I have faith that you will make the right choices for ratepayers and more importantly for everything living in, above and below our deserts - their lives are not ours to sacrifice. We will be following your progress with interest.