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Comment Received From: Alexander Christie

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A push for doubling energy efficiency

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

To whomever it may concern,

The idea of the SB 350 is of the up most importance to the state, as well as the entirety of the world. I feel that this Senate Bill could be taken further through more rapid investigation into doubling energy efficiency in the residential sector. There are two things that really stand out to me as an energy and climate major. These two being climate change and electric load response. While California has become a leading force for the zero-net energy and near zero energy space, I think it is very important that we look deeper into these issues before there is a drastic decision being made.

Climate change comes up in many discussions, and in these discussions, there are many alternate theory's and predictions. With all that, there is a very strong consensus among the scientific community of the notion of anthropogenic climate change. A study done reviewing peer reviewed literature and their position on anthropogenic global warming found that 97% of the papers agreed with this position based off their findings (Oreskes, 2004). The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated, "Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history. Recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems." (IPCC, 2014), and we are continuing to let natural gas be our primary fuel source for HVAC systems as well as domestic hot water. A total switch to electricity within residentials will make it easier for further investment into higher efficient appliances.

If the argument for a more rapid investigation into doubling energy efficiency cannot be satisfied by the shear fear of our climate system being drastically altered then maybe an argument about how we live our daily lives will be more sufficient. Understanding how a load curve is imperative to understanding how and when we need to deliver a load. When California goes completely zero-net energy, it is safe to say that homes will be maintained by all electric appliances. Because of this the demand for electricity will increase during peak demand hours, but to help meet this newly created demand more efficient technology will be needed. Again, the IPCC states, "Efficiency enhancements and behavioural changes, in order to reduce energy demand compared to baseline scenarios without compromising development." (IPCC, 2014). A intergovernmental board recognizes the significance of increasing efficiency will help with the demand response of the utilities side.

The need to initiate a rapid investigation into doubling our energy efficiency is crucial to the current and future set of challenges we face. With climate change being a substantial force upon the globe and its populations, and the threat of not being capable of meeting demand, the need to investigate doubling our efficiency is strong and clear. Please take head in the next steps of decision making because we as California will set the tone for future decisions to be made. Thank you for your consideration and time.

Graciously,

Alexander Christie

References

IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 151 pp.

Oreskes, N. (2004). The scientific consensus on climate change. Science, 306(5702), 1686-1686.

Based off this understanding of the scientific consensus