

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

ROBERT B. WEISENMILLER, CHAIR

1516 NINTH STREET, MS 33

SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

(916) 654-5036

FAX (916) 653-9040



March 30, 2017

Honorable Mayors, Councilmembers and Esteemed Members of Publically Owned Utilities:

Thank you for your letter sharing your perspectives and concerns about Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs) on behalf of California's largest publically-owned utilities

We appreciate your support to achieve a more sustainable future for California as embodied in SB 350. California stands committed to meeting our climate goals by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The electricity sector accounts for about 20 percent of total economy wide GHG emissions. The sector has made great strides to reduce GHG emissions and is currently about 20 percent below the sector's 1990 emissions. I want to applaud your contribution to this achievement.

I know you share our view that we cannot be complacent. The Governor's 2015 State of the State address set out ambitious goals, codified under Senate Bill 350: increasing to 50 percent the renewables portfolio, setting targets for statewide energy efficiency savings that will achieve a cumulative doubling of statewide energy efficiency, and widespread transportation electrification. SB 350 also requires the Air Resources Board (ARB) to establish GHG reduction targets for utilities in consultation with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the Energy Commission. The Legislature required integrated resource planning as a cohesive way for utilities to consider these complex and interrelated strategies to achieve GHG reduction goals.

The Energy Commission is working in collaboration with a broad swath of stakeholders, including POU's, to develop guidelines that facilitate compliance with the IRP process. Let me assure you that POU's required to file IRPs with the Energy Commission will have the flexibility to choose the most feasible and cost-effective options for meeting the GHG reduction planning targets and other statutory requirements, including just and reasonable rates and minimizing impacts on ratepayer bills. I encourage you to continue to participate in our IRP workshops as we develop the guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob B Weisenmiller".

ROBERT B. WEISENMILLER
Chair