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Dear Governors Brown, Herbert, Inslee, Mead, and Otter:

As you know, last year the California Independent System Operator (ISO) and PacifiCorp signed an agreement to explore having PacifiCorp join the ISO. In SB 350, the California Legislature expressed its support for the ISO to transition into a regional grid operator, provided that certain conditions were met.

Over the past year we have done a great deal to lay the groundwork for such a transition. Our offices and regulators from all the states have had a series of very productive discussions about key issues relating to regionalization. The ISO has completed detailed studies examining the economic and environmental impacts of regionalization and the California Energy Commission has held several public workshops to develop principles for governance of a regional entity.

While very significant progress has been made by the ISO on a proposal that meets the criteria in SB 350, there remain some important unresolved questions that would be difficult to answer in the remainder of California's current legislative session.

Accordingly, I have directed my staff and state agencies to continue working with the ISO, their counterparts in your states, as well as interested parties and the California Legislature. I am confident that working collaboratively we can develop a strong proposal for the California Legislature and your regulatory authorities to consider in January.

I look forward to building on the strong partnerships that our states have developed over the past several months.

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.