

## DOCKETED

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## **The Farm Worker Communities**

La Cooperativa provides services to over 50,000 farmworkers in the State. We would clearly want to see our constituents represented and highly considered in receiving programs that will have an impact on their carbon foot print as well as mitigating their levels of poverty. Programs that insure they will be able to become free of the high rates they have to pay for energy would be greatly beneficial. Approximately 16 to 17% of the farmworkers owns homes. Installing solar panels, allowing for roof retrofitting to allow such installations and providing battery backup would have a significant impact. On one hand, a heavy reduction of their carbon foot print and on the other hand an increase in disposable income alleviating their poverty level. One must note that in some areas, a monthly bill of \$600.00 per month is not unusual. For a farmworker who only makes from \$18,000 to \$24,000 dollars per year, this would be a huge relief!