

DOCKETED

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California State Senate

SENATOR
HENRY STERN

TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



December 3, 2019

Mr. David Hochschild, Chairman
California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

RE: Comments on Draft 2019 Integrated Energy Policy Report (Docket No. 19-IEPR-01)

Dear Chairman Hochschild:

As California moves to decarbonize its electrical grid and continues to further electrify the state's transportation sector, the implementation of existing and emerging technologies that do not rely on fossil fuels will become more and more urgent.

There are certainly differences between how Northern and Southern California must fulfil their energy needs currently met by natural gas. However, Governor Newsom's November 18, 2019, letter directing the California Public Utilities Commission to expedite planning for the permanent closure of the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility leaves no doubt about the direction California must take.

Despite the backward steps being taken at the federal level, California continues to aggressively pursue solutions to the world's climate crisis. As such, I would ask that the Commission's Integrated Energy Policy Report call for an analysis on what – in the short and long-term – will be the lowest-cost, most reliable, affordable, and safest path toward replacing the natural gas used in Southern California over the next two decades.

Advanced energy storage technologies are ready for large scale deployment today, and combined with other preferred resources, these are a lower-cost method of meeting demand in the long-term in the greater Los Angeles basin and statewide. It is precisely these technologies that I hope the Commission will analyze and consider as California charts a path toward a green energy future.

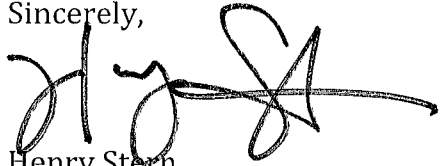
Mr. David Hochschild

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Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Stern', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Henry Stern

State Senator, 27th District

(D-Calabasas)

cc: Janea Scott, Vice-Chair, California Energy Commission
Karen Douglas, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Andrew McAllister, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Patty Monahan, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Barry Steinhart, Director of Government Affairs