From:

Robert Love <bob@sunoptics.com>

To:

<Docket@energy.state.ca.us>

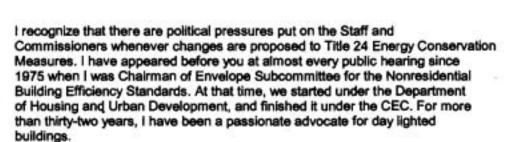
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2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Public Hearing December 17, 2007 Attention: Docket No. 07-BSTD-1

RE: Docket No. 07-BSTD-1

From:

Jerome Blomberg, Chairman of Sunoptics Prismatic Skylights



As Chairman of Sunoptics Prismatic Skylights, I have witnessed the power of daylighting with skylights in all types of building applications.

As an example, in the last fifteen years, Sunoptics has supplied the skylights to daylight approximately 400,000,000 square feet of retail store space. With a skylight to roof ratio (SRR) of 4% to 5%, the electric lighting can be replaced with daylighting more than 2500 hours per year. With a connected lighting load of 1.2 watts per sq. ft., that amount of daylighted space, takes 480,000 kW off line at most of the electric utilities¹ peak demand hours; that is half the capacity of a 1000 megawatt nuclear or coal fired plant.

The annual electric savings for those stores is One Billion 200 Million (1,200,000,000) kWh. To generate that amount of electricity annually with Photo Voltaics (PV), it would take an installation of 857,000 kW of PV. Using an installed cost for PV of \$8,000 per kW, the cost of the PV to generate the amount of electricity that the daylighting saves would be SIX BILLION EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY SEVEN MILLION ONE HUNDRED FORTY TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$6,857,142,000.00).

I am in favor of the voluntary installation of PV as a means of moderating peak demand on the utilities. However, to think that the State of California is going achieve the goals of Assembly Bill 32 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the 2000 levels by 2010 with PV, is not rational. I don't care how big the State and Utilities¹ incentives are for PV, it won't matter.

The point I really want to make is that in section 143 C, the Standard exempts the daylighting requirement if the ceiling or roof height is less than 15 feet. In two earlier public hearings, I proposed that daylighting spaces with ceiling or roof heights of 12 feet can be daylighted for less than half of that allowed by the cost effectiveness barrier in the Standard. By leaving this loophole in the Standard, the Commission infers to the world



that they, with all their energy consultants, have decided that it is not cost effective to daylight spaces when the roof or ceiling heights are less than 15 feet high. This is counter-productive to the goals of the enabling legislation, and must be corrected.

I don't believe the State can wait three more years to correct this misinformation.

Assembly Bill 32 is incredibly ambitious and requires that every State Agency seize every opportunity to reduce energy use in California, especially in all of the State's codes and Standards.

I remain optimistic that the Commission will correct this error in the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards before adoption on January 30, 2008.

I know that daylighting with skylights is a mature, proven concept and that there is adequate capacity in the skylight industry to meet any increased requirement.

Thank you for your reconsideration of this issue.

Just in case I am taking the Governor's and Legislature's concerns about Global Warming and Climate Change too seriously, I am copying this plea to a constituency of interested parties.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerome Blomberg Chairman, SUNOPTICS Prismatic Skylights jblomberg@sunoptics.com

Daylighted Store Area = 400,000,000 Square Feet

Watts per sq. ft. 1.2 480000 kW Hours off Annually 2500 1200000000 kWh Annual kWh per kW 1400 857143 kW PV required Cost of one kW PV \$8000 \$6857142857 Cost of PV