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Page 1

From:

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Date:

5/3/2011 10:05 AM

Subject:

Renewable, Localized Generation (May 9, 2011 Committee Workshop)

May 3, 2011

Honorable Chair and Members of the California Energy Commission:

The Endangered Habitats League (EHL) strongly supports the localized, distributed generation of renewable energy. For your reference, EHL is Southern California's only regional conservation group.

We are aware of significant biological harms that accompany centralized renewable generation, such as bird and bat mortality from wind turbines and direct habitat loss from solar farms. EHL has thus urged that turbines be carefully sited and that solar farms go on degraded land or low value agricultural properties. However, local generation, particularly rooftop solar, is a complete "win-win" and the most environmentally sound alternative. It also makes the individual a direct participant in climate solutions.

Please do the most possible to advance localized generation of renewable energy, particularly rooftop solar, both on public and private land. High targets should be set, and the State should lead the way with its own properties.

Sincerely, Dan Silver

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