

October 4, 2011

California Energy Commission
Re: Docket No. 11-IEP-1G
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

DOCKET

11-IEP-1G

DATE Oct. 04 2011

RECD. Oct. 04 2011

To whom it may concern:

Clean Line Energy Partners LLC (Clean Line) thanks the California Energy Commission for the opportunity to submit comments on the draft *Renewable Power in California: Status and Issues* (the Report). Clean Line is an independent developer of high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission projects across the United States, including the Centennial West Clean Line. The Centennial West project is a proposed 600kV HVDC transmission line to link high-capacity factor wind and solar resources in New Mexico and Arizona with load centers in California.

Clean Line supports the Energy Commission's efforts to prepare a renewable energy plan to expedite permitting of generation and transmission projects. The development of this Report is an important first step in this process and Clean Line appreciates the effort by the Commission to set forth a foundational understanding of past developments, current policies, and pressing issues. Among the issues raised in the report, Clean Line would like to see continued emphasis on planning for long-term goals, especially greenhouse gas reduction targets, and on region-wide transmission planning strategies.

The report estimates California's renewable energy requirements for meeting the 33 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard, as well as for meeting Executive Order S-3-05's 2050 carbon reduction goals, using clearly explained scenarios. Considering the amount of energy needed, it is important that future policy plans draw on all the options presented in this report to meet those goals: distributed generation, energy efficiency, demand response, and out-of-state imports. Imports in particular offer a low cost clean energy option while diversifying the state's resource mix with non-correlated wind. Additionally, the report makes clear the essential role new transmission will play in enabling these options and the importance of expediting planning and permitting processes that can make already lengthy timelines intractable.

As the Integrated Energy Policy Committee continues the process of developing plans and recommendations for California's renewable energy future, this Report should serve as a valuable foundation. Given the scope of need and the existing obstacles, Clean Line looks forward to further participation in this process.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Glotfelty, Executive Vice President
Clean Line Energy Partners LLC