

Public comment to Workshop

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Sent: Saturday, June 16, 2012 5:01 PM**To:** Energy - Docket Optical System**Categories:** Ready to Docket**DOCKET****12-IEP-1D****DATE** JUN 18 2012**RECD.** JUN 18 2012

Public comment to 12-IEP-1D Jobs and Renewable Energy in California

This is one of a series of workshops designed for input to the 2012 IEP. The workshops are trying to justify the state policy of forcing the use of the unreliable energy sources solar and wind to generate commercial electricity which is a reliable 24/7 commodity. This workshop was to show that using solar and wind energy would create jobs. If one reads the transcripts of the workshop it is apparent that they are not meeting the wishes of the CEC. As an example, Dr Dean on page 106 of the transcript says the following:

So my conclusion then is, as long as renewable energy is more expensive than gas generation, the net jobs is likely to be somewhat negative. Now, factors that could mitigate that would be if you could infuse money into the program from outside, possibly, for example, through an interaction between the Renewable Portfolio Standard and the Cap-and-Trade Program, then that would blunt that a bit.

The Council for Renewable Energy is likely to continue coming down, so the economic impacts are probably going to get smaller in magnitude. In any case, the impact on the California economy is very small, we're talking about less than two-tenths of a percent. So mostly, these programs are just shuffling jobs from one industry to another industry.

Then later before she was cut off by a commissioner:

MS. PILLER: We are -- woody biomass is 100 percent California created renewable energy, it is the only 100 percent 24/7 dispatchable renewable energy for baseload demand, and it can be ramped up and down, so we are a perfect complement to the solar and wind, and I thank you very much for your time.

Unfortunately the CEC will not adjust the IEP to reflect what the workshop participants are saying. The CEC should take heed that the workshops are not helping their justification of solar and wind energy for generating commercial electricity

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