

# **NO on Proposition 7**

*Proposition 7, the Solar and Clean Energy Initiative, despite its laudable goals contains serious and fundamental flaws that will undermine future development of renewable energy in California.*

For this reason, leading environmental groups oppose Prop. 7, along with **renewable energy companies and trade associations that would have the most to gain from actually achieving its goals**. Despite its good intentions, Prop. 7 is counter-productive to the extremely important and timely effort to increase the use of renewable energy. Here are just some of the serious flaws with the proposition:

- ✦ **LOOPHOLES FOR UTILITY COMPANIES** – Prop. 7 creates more uncertainty by locking in language that will allow utilities to escape compliance responsibilities. According to an independent legislative analysis, these loopholes are “susceptible to manipulation.” As one example, Prop. 7 would allow the mere signing of contracts—and not the construction or delivery of clean energy projects—to count for compliance. The Legislature has already rejected including these loopholes in the existing renewables standard. *These loopholes will:*
  - Encourage contracts with “phantom projects” that will never get built
  - Make it harder for viable, well-designed projects to get financing
  - Delay the actual development of clean energy
  
- ✦ **NEW CONFUSION AND COMPLEXITY IN SITING TRANSMISSION** – Instead of utilizing the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative process already underway to address genuine barriers to new transmission, Prop. 7 adds complexity to the existing regulatory process and limits the time window for public involvement. *This will:*
  - Invite costly litigation and delay by creating overlapping jurisdiction and reducing opportunities for public input
  - Fail to address the real barriers to building in-state renewable energy projects
  
- ✦ **COUNTERPRODUCTIVE PRICING POLICIES** – Prop. 7 creates inflexible limits on the sale price for eligible renewable electricity while there is no limit on the future price of volatile natural gas. *This will:*
  - Prevent the construction of new solar energy projects
  - Threaten the state’s ability to meet the existing 20 percent by 2010 renewables standard
  
- ✦ **SMALL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT DISCOURAGED** – Prop. 7 illogically discriminates against smaller (less than 30 megawatts) renewable energy projects, which currently make up nearly 60 percent of the projects contracted under today’s renewable energy requirements. Small projects generally face fewer transmission obstacles and provide local reliability and economic benefits. *This will:*
  - Discourage the very projects that are needed to drive technology advancement in our state
  - Shut dozens of solar, geothermal, and biomass energy companies out of the market
  
- ✦ **INFLEXIBLE INITIATIVE** – Insufficiently vetted, Prop. 7 will lock in numerous problems and errors that can only be fixed by a 2/3 vote of the state Legislature or another expensive statewide ballot proposition campaign. *This will:*
  - Hamstring policymakers’ abilities to improve and update highly complex energy policy

## **Prop. 7 is *opposed* by the following organizations and associations:**

### **Environmental and Consumer Groups**

- California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV)
- Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies (CEERT)
- Climate Protection Campaign
- Consumer Federation of California
- Environment California
- Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
- Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)
- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
- Sierra Club California
- Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)
- The Vote Solar Initiative
- Worldwide Green Corps
- Acterra: Action for a Sustainable Earth
- Endangered Habitats League
- San Jose Conservation Corps

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### **Labor Organizations**

- A.F.S.C.M.E.
- California Coalition of Utility Employees (CCUE)
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 1245
- IBEW, Local 18
- IBEW, Local 47
- IBEW, Local 465
- IBEW, 9<sup>th</sup> District
- California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

### **Renewable Energy Technology Companies and Associations**

- Bright Source
- CE Generation
- enXco
- Fortistar Methane Group
- GreenVolts
- Horizon Wind
- Oak Creek
- Solel, Inc.
- OptiSolar Inc.
- Iberdrola Renewables
- SCHOTT Solar, Inc.
- Solar Millennium, LLC
- Solar Monkey
- Sun Light and Power
- Sun Miner, LLC
- Apex Solar, Inc.
- American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)
- California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA)
- California Solar Energy Industries Association (CalSEIA)
- Cleantech America, Inc.
- Independent Energy Producers Assoc.
- Large-Scale Solar Association
- The Solar Alliance

*(partial list)*

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## **FIGHT GLOBAL WARMING AND SUPPORT MORE RENEWABLE ENERGY!**

**Renewable energy supporters have an alternative to Prop. 7!** You can do something positive to support clean energy, promote green collar jobs, and combat global warming by contacting your State Assembly Member and asking him/her to support ongoing reforms to the state's renewables electricity standard including an aggressive **33% renewable energy requirement by 2020**.

A minimum of 33% eligible renewable energy by 2020 will require all utility companies in the state to provide cleaner and renewable sources of energy, such as wind, geothermal and solar to their ratepayers. This will substantially reduce emissions of global warming pollution and help California meet our global warming cap under AB 32—the landmark legislation passed in 2006.

To contact your State Assembly Member, call 916-319-20XX (XX = your Assembly District #).

