



CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

SENATOR ART TORRES (RET.), CHAIRMAN

MANL06.02

SUPPORTING CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY

WHEREAS: Backed by overwhelming voter support, California has provided internationally-recognized leadership in shifting to renewable energy, energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation while recognizing the security and economic development value of doing so; and

WHEREAS: Clean, renewable energy can now be produced in significant quantities and with attractive economics, facilitating a shift to renewable energy sources in accordance with the state's energy needs and assuring, when combined with energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation measures, no net loss or shortage in meeting the state's energy requirements as we transition from traditional to alternative energy generation; and

WHEREAS: The combination of rapidly growing market demand, technological innovation, and the long-term global economic importance yet early stage of the renewable energy industry offer California a chance to cultivate a new source of high-paying jobs, small-business opportunities, and profitable business activity in this emerging sector just as the State has done with the media and entertainment, information technology, biotechnology, and now nanotechnology industries

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party shall prevail upon the State Legislature to draft and enact legislation accelerating and expanding the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) as outlined in the Integrated Energy Policy Report of November 2005 (CEC-100-2005-007-CMF), such that 1) all California investor and publicly owned utilities, other California energy service companies, and any energy providers providing energy to California, are required to consistently participate in the RPS, including with regard to energy produced outside California but used within the state; 2) the state shall support the research, development, and incentives necessary to integrate renewable resources into the power grid, including through voter-approved financing mechanisms; 3) the state shall streamline RPS processes and provide necessary incentives in order to meet the state's current energy policy goal of 20 percent renewable energy by 2010; 4) the state shall increase the longer term energy policy goal to 40 percent (from 33 percent) renewable energy by 2020; 5) the state shall increase the long term goal to 40 percent (from 30 percent) of the state's transportation fuels to come from non-petroleum sources by 2030; and 6) the California Energy Commission will set forth a clearly-defined strategy and timeline for ultimately achieving statewide independence from fossil fuels and nuclear power, including through the use of energy efficiency measures, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation incentives.

Authored by Gautam Barua and Frances Cleveland with the assistance of Woody Clark and Art Halenbeck, considered at the 1-28-06 meeting of the CDP Environmental Caucus

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