



May 10, 2017

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The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95818

**Re: AB 920 (Aguiar-Curry) – Electricity: integrated resource plans  
As Amended May 1, 2017 – SUPPORT  
Awaiting Hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of AB 920 (Aguiar-Curry), a measure that would make changes to the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program and would require evaluation of energy resources to ensure balanced energy portfolios.

Current law requires load-serving entities to obtain a certain percentage threshold of their energy from renewable sources as a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This has resulted in increased wind and solar production in the state, but has not produced much development of baseload renewable sources of renewable energy, such as biomass. While wind and solar are excellent sources of renewable energy, they can be inconsistent in the amount of power generated since elements like wind and sun natural vary at different times of day or seasons.

AB 920 would require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to evaluate integrated resource plans to ensure balanced portfolios with an appropriate mix of types of energy, as part of the review required under current law. The CPUC would also assess the need for and benefits of baseload generation, and would consider whether or not to establish procurement requirements for renewable baseload generation in order to meet energy goals. Governing boards of locally owned utilities would undertake a similar review.

Additional baseload resources like biomass are reliable sources of renewable energy that can complement more variable sources like wind and solar. Additionally, development of this type of energy source in rural forested areas in California can have additional environmental and economic benefits, particularly in regions hard-hit by the ongoing tree-mortality crisis. Finally, counties support efforts to ensure that California has an adequate supply of safe, reliable energy at competitive prices, while adhering to the state's priorities of conservation, renewables, new generation, and new transmission. It is for these reasons that CSAC supports AB 920. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please contact me at 916-327-7500, ext. 504, or [cmartinson@counties.org](mailto:cmartinson@counties.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cara Martinson'.

Cara Martinson  
Legislative Representative

Cc: The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jennifer Galehouse, Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus