



NO on Proposition 7

Measure Bad for Low-Income Consumers and Working Families

An unprecedented coalition of solar, wind and renewable energy companies, organized labor, low-income and consumer advocates, community groups, environmentalists, small businesses, and local governments all oppose Proposition 7 on the November ballot. Prop. 7 was placed on the ballot by an Arizona billionaire with no expertise in renewable power issues. The measure purports to increase the percent of renewable power utilities must purchase. However, it is so poorly drafted that renewable energy and environmental experts warn Prop. 7 will not achieve its goals and, instead will actually “slam the brakes” on renewable energy development in California, resulting in significant increases in our electric bills. Prop. 7 will:

- **Lead to unacceptable rate increases for working families - a \$300 increase per household per year.** Prop. 7 contains a provision that artificially increases the cost of power and virtually guarantees that electricity consumers will pay 10% above market rates for renewable power forever -- even when the costs of solar and wind sources become more competitive. Economists predict that the average California household would see its utility bill increase by more than \$300 dollars a year. Furthermore, the non-partisan Legislative Analyst cautions that, “...*the prospects for higher electricity rates are more likely in the short term...*” and the initiative might “...*also lead to higher long-run electricity rates.*” In addition, nothing in the text of Prop. 7 limits increases in our electric bills to 3% like proponents claim. Even the Legislative Analyst warns that “*the measure includes no specific provisions to implement or enforce this declaration.*”
- **Could lead to the loss of more than 170,000 jobs statewide.** According to economists, Prop. 7 will likely lead to the loss of **174,000 jobs across all sectors of the California economy by 2025.** This is a product of the fact that the measure will result in higher electric rates that will slow job creation and economic growth. Additionally, Prop. 7 jeopardizes thousands of investor-owned and municipal utility jobs – a source of good jobs for hard working Californians.
- **Slam the brakes on renewable energy development.** Prop. 7 locks into law many flaws that are currently stifling renewable power development in California and creates new roadblocks to renewable development. For instance, the measure complicates the siting of new renewable power plants and adds new layers of bureaucracy that will stall necessary transmission line development to connect renewable power to the grid. That’s why leading environmental groups and renewable power companies all OPPOSE Prop. 7.

Californians deserve clean energy from responsible planning, not an irresponsible proposition that will take us backward. The author of AB 32 (Fran Pavley) and many other legislators have worked long and hard to combat global climate change, including new requirements to ensure that we will move to more renewable power sources in the near future. Prop. 7 will actually stop progress we are making, lead to higher rates, less renewable power and possibly another energy crisis.