



August 8, 2012

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The Honorable Christine Kehoe
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
California State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: AB 796 (Blumenfield) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Kehoe,

CleanTECH San Diego is pleased to support AB 796 (Blumenfield), legislation that would encourage private investments in California clean energy companies that create California-based jobs and products that help achieve our state's environmental and clean energy mandates.

CleanTECH San Diego is a nonprofit association focused on accelerating the greater San Diego region's transition to a clean energy economy. We have a broad and diverse membership that includes private sector companies, local governments, nongovernmental agencies and universities and research institutions.

California is a clean energy leader both nationally and internationally. AB 32, the Renewable Portfolio Standard, and other innovative policies are driving the demand for clean energy technologies; however, there are few existing programs to encourage the production of these technologies in-state. Doing so would create jobs, provide energy security, and continue the growth of California's clean technology industry.

We strongly believe that California should be the benefactor of its environmental leadership by encouraging clean technologies to be manufactured in-state. To do that, companies need to be assured that staying in California makes financial sense, especially in the face of financial incentives from other governments. Coupled with the state's pioneering energy and environmental policies, AB 796 provides the type of financial incentive that can help a company make the decision to locate to or expand in California.

This bill authorizes the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (CAEATFA), to deploy a variety of financials tools that can be used as a backstop for private investments made to eligible California clean tech manufacturing projects. For a project to be considered by CAEATFA, the project must promote the reduction of greenhouse gases, air and water pollution, and energy consumption.

We respectfully request your support when this bill is heard in your committee.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson

Cc: The Honorable Bob Blumenfield
Cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee