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October 7, 2011

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CleanTECH San Diego Support of SB 267

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of CleanTECH San Diego, I am writing to convey our strong support of SB 267 and encourage your signing of the legislation.

SB 267 addresses an issue that has recently emerged as a significant problem for solar projects going through permitting -- a focused water study that was adopted by the Legislature as a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirement for certain large-scale residential, commercial and industrial projects that have significant water impacts. Until very recently, local permitting agencies did not consider the Water Supply Agreement (WSA) requirement to apply renewable energy projects.

With California's re-affirmed commitment to clean, renewable energy by increasing the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard goal to 33% by 2020, the state needs to bring an additional 15,000 to 20,000 MW on-line. While California is positioning itself and taking the steps necessary to meet this goal, obstacles remain for the state, renewable energy developers and local communities. For example, under current law, a proposed renewable energy facility must prepare a WSA regardless of the amount of water that it will use.

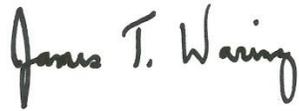
Opponents of renewable energy projects have challenged solar projects in San Diego and San Bernardino Counties on the basis that these projects did not have completed WSA, and were therefore not in compliance with CEQA. At a time when the state is trying to streamline government, eliminate burdensome regulations and create jobs, this is an unnecessary requirement and the litigation opportunity must be eliminated.

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 the private sector such as General Atomics, Bank of America, Sapphire Energy, Soitec Solar and Kyocera Solar, as well as local governments, nongovernmental agencies and universities and research institutes such as UC San Diego, San Diego State University and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. With 180 solar companies, the highest penetration of rooftop PV installations in the US and the most solar installations and capacity, San Diego is ranked as the Number 1 Solar City by *Environment Today*. Unnecessary restrictions on proposed renewable energy facilities will only slow job creation and economic development in our region and throughout the state.

California needs to remove these obstacles if we are to realize our clean energy goals and create jobs in our communities. SB 267 is a necessary step in the right direction and therefore needs to be signed into law.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your support of renewable energy projects in California.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James T. Waring". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "W".

Jim Waring