

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2944

Introduced by Assembly Member Kehoe

February 25, 2002

An act to add Section 25407 to the Public Resources Code, relating to energy conservation and development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2944, as introduced, Kehoe. Energy conservation and development: San Diego Solar Streetlights Pilot Program.

Existing law establishes the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission within the Resources Agency, with powers and responsibilities that include the development of alternative renewable sources of energy.

This bill would establish the San Diego Solar Streetlights Pilot Program to educate the public on the feasibility of solar energy systems and to encourage greater use of solar energy systems in both commercial and residential applications. The bill would require the commission to report to the Governor and the Legislature on the pilot program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) It is in the best interests of the people of this state that the
- 4 quality of life of its citizens be improved by providing

1 environmentally sound, safe, reliable, and affordable energy
2 services and products.

3 (b) It is in the best interests of the people of this state to reduce
4 our reliance upon electrical corporations and electricity generated
5 by thermal powerplants.

6 (c) It is in the best interests of the people of this state to
7 encourage the use of alternative energy sources, including solar
8 energy systems, as a means of reducing that reliance.

9 (d) Pilot programs demonstrating to the public both the
10 feasibility and reliability of alternative energy sources are an
11 effective means to encourage the public to use solar energy
12 systems.

13 SEC. 2. Section 25407 is added to the Public Resources Code,
14 to read:

15 25407. (a) The San Diego Solar Streetlights Pilot Program is
16 hereby established for a period of time to be determined by the
17 commission, upon agreement with the City of San Diego, and at
18 the initiative of alternative energy companies that have organized
19 among themselves to implement the solar energy pilot program.

20 (b) The purpose of the pilot program is to educate the public on
21 the feasibility of solar energy systems as an alternative renewable
22 energy source, and to encourage greater use of solar energy
23 systems in both commercial and residential applications.

24 (c) The project shall utilize resources of California alternative
25 energy companies for a solar street lighting system for a portion
26 of the city not to exceed a six-block radius. "Street lighting
27 system" includes any or all appliances, poles, posts, electroliers,
28 transformers, lighting units, lamps, cables, wires, pipes, conduits,
29 and other suitable or necessary works or appliances for street
30 lighting purposes.

31 (d) The participating alternative energy companies shall, in
32 consideration of certain incentives to be devised by the City of San
33 Diego in concert with the alternative energy producers, donate the
34 physical plant and necessary infrastructure to bring the pilot
35 project into being. No state funds shall be encumbered in order to
36 conduct, or pay for, any part of the pilot program originally
37 undertaken or provided by any industry or business participant.
38 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as prohibiting the
39 use of federal funds, should they become available for purposes
40 consistent with this section or from preventing the commission



1 from using existing resources, to provide technical or other
2 assistance to the program.

3 (e) The industry or business participants of the pilot program
4 may be identified in public, provided the brands of products
5 employed shall not be identified, nor shall their use be deemed an
6 endorsement of any particular brand or proprietary approach to
7 using alternative energy.

8 (f) On or before January 1, 2005, the commission shall report
9 to the Governor and the Legislature on the pilot program. This
10 report shall include, but is not limited to, an analysis of the costs
11 and benefits of equipment and materials used in the pilot program,
12 a discussion of the results obtained and a discussion of the
13 implications for statewide implementation of the program.

