

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 20, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 8, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 14, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 407

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez
(Principal coauthor: Senator Hueso)

February 15, 2013

~~An act to amend Section 71100 of, and to add Section 71103.6 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to the environment. An act to add Section 25328 to the Public Resources Code, relating to energy.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 407, as amended, V. Manuel Pérez. ~~Environment: New River Watershed Water Quality, Public Health, and River Parkway Development Program. Renewable energy resources: Salton Sea.~~

The Warren-Alquist State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Act establishes the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission. The act requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, beginning November 1, 2003, and by November 1 of every odd year thereafter, to adopt an integrated energy policy report that includes an overview of major energy trends and issues facing the state, an assessment and forecast of system reliability, and the need for resource additions, efficiency, and conservation. The act requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, beginning

November 1, 2004, and by November 1 of each even year thereafter, to prepare an energy policy review to update the analyses from the integrated energy policy report or to raise energy issues that have emerged since the release of the integrated energy policy report.

The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program, also known as the RPS program, requires a retail seller of electricity, as defined, and local publicly owned electric utilities to purchase specified minimum quantities of electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources, as defined, for specified compliance periods, sufficient to ensure that the procurement of electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources achieves 25% of retail sales by December 31, 2016, and 33% of retail sales by December 31, 2020, and in all subsequent years.

This bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission and the Independent System Operator, to convene a stakeholders group to identify impediments and recommended steps that should be taken to properly maintain, develop, integrate, and transmit electricity generated by eligible renewable energy resources located in and around the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area and the Geysers Geothermal Field. The bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to include its evaluations and recommendations in the next integrated energy policy report or energy policy review update.

~~Existing law requires the California-Mexico Border Relations Council, contingent upon the execution of an agreement with the City of Calexico to provide the necessary funding, to develop a strategic plan (New River Improvement Project strategic plan) to guide the implementation of the New River Improvement Project containing specified elements.~~

~~This bill would require a state agency awarding or granting funds for projects associated with the New River to ensure that the grants, loans, or other forms of financial support are expended in a manner consistent with the New River Improvement Project strategic plan.~~

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. Section 25328 is added to the Public Resources
- 2 Code, to read:

1 25328. (a) *The commission, in consultation with the Public*
2 *Utilities Commission and the Independent System Operator, shall*
3 *convene a stakeholders group to identify impediments and*
4 *recommended steps that should be taken to properly maintain,*
5 *develop, integrate, and transmit electricity generated by eligible*
6 *renewable energy resources located in and around the Salton Sea*
7 *Known Geothermal Resource Area and the Geysers Geothermal*
8 *Field. The commission and stakeholders shall, at a minimum, do*
9 *all of the following:*

10 (1) *Analyze the effectiveness of the value for assessing*
11 *procurement contracts for eligible renewable energy resources*
12 *approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to*
13 *subdivision (c) of Section 454.5 of the Public Utilities Code that*
14 *includes integration of those resources into the operation of the*
15 *electrical grid, analyze whether the value has resulted in*
16 *development of new eligible renewable energy resources located*
17 *in Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area and the Geysers*
18 *Geothermal Field, and make recommendations on whether other*
19 *measures are appropriate to ensure that eligible renewable energy*
20 *resources are appropriately developed in and around the Salton*
21 *Sea.*

22 (2) *Analyze the costs and the value provided by baseload*
23 *renewable energy projects.*

24 (3) *Analyze whether state loan guarantees, loans, or state funds*
25 *could be made available to assist developers of geothermal and*
26 *other eligible renewable energy resources to access capital and*
27 *long-term financing.*

28 (4) *Analyze the feasibility of establishing streamlined permitting*
29 *process for geothermal project developments located in California.*

30 (5) *Analyze the environmental and other benefits of injecting*
31 *treated wastewater into existing geothermal resources.*

32 (6) *Analyze the avoided transmission costs associated with*
33 *reliance on existing renewable energy resources to satisfy the state*
34 *renewable energy and other environmental policy mandates.*

35 (7) *Consider methods to expedite transmission line development*
36 *from the Imperial Irrigation District balancing authority area to*
37 *utilities and regional independent system operators.*

38 (b) *The commission shall include its evaluations and*
39 *recommendations in the next integrated energy policy report*
40 *adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of, or energy*

1 *policy review update adopted pursuant to subdivision (d) of,*
2 *Section 25302.*

3 ~~SECTION 1. Section 71100 of the Public Resources Code is~~
4 ~~amended to read:~~

5 ~~71100. The following definitions govern the construction of~~
6 ~~this part:~~

7 ~~(a) "Cal BECC" means the California Border Environmental~~
8 ~~Cooperation Committee established on July 22, 1994, by the~~
9 ~~Governors of California, Baja California, and Baja California Sur.~~

10 ~~(b) "California-Baja California border region" means the region~~
11 ~~described in Chapter IV of the US-Mexico Border XXI Program,~~
12 ~~Framework Document, published October 1996.~~

13 ~~(c) "Fund" means the California Border Environmental and~~
14 ~~Public Health Protection Fund established pursuant to Section~~
15 ~~71101.~~

16 ~~(d) "New River Improvements Project strategic plan" means the~~
17 ~~strategic plan developed pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section~~
18 ~~71103.5.~~

19 ~~SEC. 2. Section 71103.6 is added to the Public Resources Code,~~
20 ~~to read:~~

21 ~~71103.6. A state agency awarding or granting funds for~~
22 ~~projects associated with the New River shall ensure that the grants,~~
23 ~~loans, or other forms of financial support are expended in a manner~~
24 ~~consistent with the New River Improvements Project strategic~~
25 ~~plan.~~