

Introduced by Senator Hueso

February 19, 2014

An act to amend Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1115, as introduced, Hueso. Renewable energy resources.

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to review and adopt a renewable energy procurement plan for each electrical corporation, as defined, pursuant to the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the program's legislative findings and declarations.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code is
2 amended to read:
3 399.11. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
4 (a) In order to attain a target of generating 20 percent of total
5 retail sales of electricity in California from eligible renewable
6 energy resources by December 31, 2013, and 33 percent by
7 December 31, 2020, it is the intent of the Legislature that the
8 commission and the Energy Commission implement the California
9 Renewables Portfolio Standard Program described in this article.
10 (b) Achieving the renewables portfolio standard through the
11 procurement of various electricity products from eligible renewable

1 energy resources is intended to provide unique benefits to
2 California, including all of the following *benefits*, each of which
3 independently justifies the program:

- 4 (1) Displacing fossil fuel consumption within the state.
 - 5 (2) Adding new electrical generating facilities in the
6 transmission network within the Western Electricity Coordinating
7 Council service area.
 - 8 (3) Reducing air pollution in the state.
 - 9 (4) Meeting the state's climate change goals by reducing
10 emissions of greenhouse gases associated with electrical generation.
 - 11 (5) Promoting stable retail rates for electric service.
 - 12 (6) Meeting the state's need for a diversified and balanced
13 energy generation portfolio.
 - 14 (7) Assistance with meeting the state's resource adequacy
15 requirements.
 - 16 (8) Contributing to the safe and reliable operation of the
17 electrical grid, including ~~providing~~ *the provision of* predictable
18 electrical supply, voltage support, lower line losses, and congestion
19 relief.
 - 20 (9) Implementing the state's transmission and land use planning
21 activities related to development of eligible renewable energy
22 resources.
- 23 (c) The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program is
24 intended to complement the Renewable Energy Resources Program
25 administered by the Energy Commission and established pursuant
26 to Chapter 8.6 (commencing with Section 25740) of Division 15
27 of the Public Resources Code.
- 28 (d) New and modified electric transmission facilities may be
29 necessary to facilitate the state achieving its renewables portfolio
30 standard targets.
- 31 (e) (1) Supplying electricity to California end-use customers
32 that is generated by eligible renewable energy resources is
33 necessary to improve California's air quality and public health,
34 and the commission shall ensure rates are just and reasonable, and
35 are not significantly affected by the procurement requirements of
36 this article. This electricity may be generated anywhere in the
37 interconnected grid that includes many states, and areas of both
38 Canada and Mexico.
- 39 (2) This article requires *that* generating resources located outside
40 of California that are able to supply that electricity to California

1 end-use customers to be treated identically to generating resources
2 located within the state, without discrimination.

3 (3) California electrical corporations have already executed,
4 and the commission has approved, power purchase agreements
5 with eligible renewable energy resources located outside of
6 California that will supply electricity to California end-use
7 customers. These resources will fully count toward meeting the
8 renewables portfolio standard procurement requirements. In
9 addition, there are nearly 7,000 megawatts of additional proposed
10 renewable energy resources located outside of California that are
11 awaiting interconnection approval from the Independent System
12 Operator. All of these resources, if procured, will count as eligible
13 renewable energy resources that satisfy the portfolio content
14 requirements of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 399.16.

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