

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1030

Introduced by Assembly Member Blumenfield

February 27, 2009

An act to add Section 14017 to the Government Code, relating to renewable energy systems.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1030, as introduced, Blumenfield. Renewable energy systems: Department of Transportation.

Existing law provides for the Department of Transportation in the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is administered by the Director of Transportation. Existing law requires the director to perform all duties, exercise all powers and jurisdiction, assume and discharge all responsibilities, and carry out and effect all purposes vested by law in the department, except as otherwise expressly provided by law.

This bill would require the director, on and after May 1, 2010, to compile and maintain an inventory list of state-owned real property under the direction or control of the Department of Transportation that may be available for lease for the installation and operation of solar, wind, piezoelectric, or other renewable energy systems for power generation. The bill would require the director to consult with the California Energy Commission in developing criteria for property to be placed on the inventory list, as specified.

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) Solar energy is one of California's most abundant renewable
4 resources that can help reduce demand in the state for electricity
5 during peak consumption periods.

6 (b) Renewable energy promotes economic development and
7 provides opportunities to stimulate the creation of jobs for
8 Californians.

9 (c) Accelerating the use of renewable energy resources wherever
10 feasible, such as open space along transportation corridors, can
11 help to achieve the state's climate change goals required by the
12 California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5
13 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code).

14 (d) Aesthetically integrated solar and other renewable energy
15 systems on the more than 150 miles of highway sound walls
16 already built and potentially more associated with new
17 transportation projects are untapped resources that could be put to
18 beneficial uses in generating electricity for neighboring residential
19 areas, reducing energy costs to government, and promoting the
20 installation of additional sound walls for neighborhoods.

21 (e) Unlike most transportation capital outlays that result in
22 increased maintenance costs, investments in renewable energy
23 production and promoting public-private partnerships to use
24 untapped sound walls and other transit property would generate
25 revenues that could be used to offset maintenance costs.

26 SEC. 2. Section 14017 is added to the Government Code, to
27 read:

28 14017. (a) The director shall compile and maintain an
29 inventory list of state-owned real property under the direction or
30 control of the department that may be available for lease for the
31 installation and operation of solar, wind, piezoelectric, or other
32 renewable energy systems for power generation. This list shall be
33 the sole list for the department's property available for this purpose.

34 (b) The director shall make the inventory list available, upon
35 request, in a cost-effective manner.

36 (c) The director shall consult with the California Energy
37 Commission to develop criteria for property to be placed on the
38 inventory list. State-owned real property to be considered shall

- 1 include, but not be limited to, department maintenance yards,
- 2 rooftops, freeway sound barriers, and highway rights-of-way.
- 3 (d) This section shall become operative on May 1, 2010.