

## **NO on Proposition 7 Renewable Energy Generation**

- Proposition 7 oversimplifies the challenges associated with assuring the reliability of a complex statewide electricity supply system. The 2000-2001 electricity crisis made clear the vital need for statewide integrated planning to meet the power demands of a robust state with a balanced portfolio of resources.
- Proposition 7 would hamper efforts to foster deployment of renewable resources across the state. State agencies are already working collaboratively with stakeholders to address the challenges of meeting the current Renewables Portfolio Standard.
- The complicated and sometimes contradictory conditions proposed in this initiative would make it significantly harder to meet the RPS. Proposition 7's excessive bureaucratic hurdles include duplicative oversight between the California Energy Commission and California Public Utilities Commission.
- The initiative totally ignores existing the state's "loading order" (or priority order) for investments in new electric generation. This policy emphasizes that the least costly and most environmentally friendly way to meet our electricity needs is investment in energy efficiency and demand-side management.
- Solar and wind resources are intermittent and must be integrated with storage and "load-following" resources, which at the present time are limited in availability. The availability of hydro-electric power, which currently is the preferred "load-following" resource, is expected to be increasingly limited in the coming decades because of the impacts of climate change on the state's snow pack.
- The proposal to jump-start clean-power plants, primarily solar plants in sensitive desert lands, could be in direct conflict with the environmental protections provided by CEQA, the California Environmental Quality Act.
- Energy and environmental experts warn that Proposition 7 was so poorly drafted that it will not achieve its goals. It could, in fact, open the way for unintended consequences like forcing small renewable energy companies out of California's market.