

**100% Clean Energy.**  
**It's Bold. It's Needed. It's Within Reach.**  
**SCIENTISTS AGREE: SB 100 IS KEY**

August 2018

Dear California state legislators:

As California faces record-setting heat, longer and more dangerous fire seasons, and the growing impacts from droughts and floods, it's imperative that the state continue its climate leadership and establish a goal to generate California's electricity entirely from zero-carbon energy sources by 2045. Recent scientific developments related to climate extremes, health impacts of climate change, and accelerating sea level rise give even greater urgency for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As scientists and researchers with expertise in energy and climate change, we agree that clean energy is among the most urgent solutions needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and must become the dominant source of electricity powering buildings, industry and transportation if we are to have any chance of keeping global temperature increases to hopefully below 2 degrees Celsius.

California has led the world in clean energy development and deployment through the enactment of its Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS). In 2015, California raised the RPS to require that 50 percent of electricity needs be met by renewable energy sources by 2030. According to the California Public Utilities Commission, utilities are on track to meet this requirement ahead of schedule.<sup>1</sup>

Now is the time for California to chart a course for the electricity sector to be carbon-free by 2045. The "100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018," Senate Bill 100 (de León), would do just that: set a goal for supplying all of California's electricity from carbon-free resources by 2045, and accelerate California's RPS to 60 percent by 2030. This goal would allow for flexibility in how the remaining 40 percent of electricity is supplied, whether through additional renewables, existing large hydropower, or other carbon-free energy resources. Setting such a bold and aspirational goal for California, the world's fifth largest economy, would catalyze the research and investment needed to achieve a clean, carbon-free electricity system and help create a blueprint for others to follow.

California has a strong track record of setting bold goals and surpassing them, including reducing the state's greenhouse gas emissions to meet our 2020 limits four years ahead of schedule. Now is the time to keep the clean energy momentum going and adopt a new visionary goal of 100 percent clean energy that will benefit all Californians. We, the undersigned scientists and researchers, urge you to pass SB 100 this August.

Signed by,

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1. California's Renewables Portfolio Standard, Annual Report, Submitted to the Legislature, November 2017 (page 31).

[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC\\_Website/Content/Utilities\\_and\\_Industries/Energy/Reports\\_and\\_White\\_Papers/Nov%202017%20-%20RPS%20Annual%20Report.pdf](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC_Website/Content/Utilities_and_Industries/Energy/Reports_and_White_Papers/Nov%202017%20-%20RPS%20Annual%20Report.pdf)