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CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY PASSES ENERGY STORAGE BILL AB 2514

Landmark Energy Storage Legislation Now Heads to Senate

Sacramento, CA – June 4, 2010 – The California State Assembly yesterday passed AB 2514, landmark legislation that will create a smarter, cleaner electric grid, increase the use of renewable energy, save Californians money by avoiding costly new power plants, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollutants through the use of energy storage technologies by utility companies.

Authored by Assembly member Nancy Skinner (D - Berkeley) Chair of the Assembly Rules Committee, in partnership with California Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr., AB 2514 will also create thousands of permanent new green-collar jobs in California.

The bill would require the Public Utilities Commission by March 1, 2012, to open a proceeding to consider establishing investor owned utility procurement targets for viable and cost-effective energy storage systems to be achieved by December 31, 2015, and an additional target to be achieved by December 31, 2020. Publicly owned utilities would have comparable requirements, and would be required to develop plans to maximize shifting of electricity use for air-conditioning and refrigeration from peak demand periods to off peak periods.

“Energy storage improves the overall efficiency of our electric power system which will lower costs for consumers”, said Assemblymember Nancy Skinner. “The Assembly’s passage of AB 2514 is another step that advances California’s clean energy economy and represents a great economic opportunity for the State.”

“We applaud the Assembly’s passage of this essential legislation, as well as Chairman Skinner and Attorney General Brown’s leadership and commitment to moving it forward,” said Janice Lin, Director of the California Energy Storage Alliance. “This landmark bill puts California at the forefront of a growing global market that will spur economic development. Given major advances in energy storage, the industry is now ready to provide affordable, reliable products for California’s utilities and consumers.”

The California Energy Storage Alliance

The California Energy Storage Alliance is an association of companies committed to the rapid expansion of energy storage to promote growth of renewable energy and a cleaner, more affordable, reliable and secure electric system. Members include a diverse group of companies ranging from mechanical, thermal and chemical storage companies to system integrators and renewable energy component manufacturers and developers. (www.storagealliance.org)