



SB 846 CONTAINS A HIDDEN SOLAR TAX! **Vote No!**

Taxing consumer solar and energy storage is a bad idea but especially as a way to subsidize an aging nuclear plant.

- The solar and storage tax is **bad for consumers**
- The solar and storage tax is **bad for clean energy**
- The solar and storage tax is **bad for grid reliability**
- The solar and storage tax is **discriminatory** and a **bad precedent**

SB 846 would tax all of the energy generated by rooftop solar and storage users, including the energy generated and used onsite by families, schools, nonprofits, farms, affordable housing projects, and millions of consumers statewide. This is the opposite thing California should do in the name of reliability.

"...these nonbypassable costs...shall be based on each customer's gross consumption of electricity regardless of a customer's net metering status or purchase of electric energy and service from an electric service provider, community choice aggregator, or other third-party source of electric energy or electricity service." (Sec 9 (l)). (emphasis added)

SB 846 is discriminatory because it would require that solar and storage customers pay a tax based on their electric consumption from the grid plus the amount by which they reduce their consumption by relying on self-generation. All other customers would only pay these costs based on their electric consumption from the grid alone. Customers who reduce their grid consumption through energy efficiency or demand response, or who run a diesel generator for backup power, would not pay this additional charge.

Rooftop solar users today already pay for nuclear decommissioning in their solar exports and in what they purchase from the grid. SB 846 would go a step too far by estimating how much energy a consumer self-generates and consumes on-site and taxing it. This is like PG&E estimating how much energy a consumer saves by turning down their thermostat and taxing those savings.

The solar and storage tax in SB 846 would be retroactive to include all solar consumers including over 150,000 low-income CARE customers, hundreds of low-income apartment buildings, schools, and small businesses. It would tax vulnerable seniors who use solar batteries to keep the power on during "PSPS" events.

PG&E's solar tax is hugely unpopular with voters, and it is illegal.

Distributed solar and storage technologies are forward-looking resiliency solutions. California should aggressively build more solar and storage in order to meet our clean energy goals and keep the lights on.

TAXING THE SUN IS A BAD IDEA. TAXING THE SUN IN THE NAME OF RELIABILITY IS EVEN WORSE. **VOTE NO SB 846**

Contact Kim Stone at (916) 798-1878 or kim@stoneadvocacy.com.