





HAMMOND CLIMATE
SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION
Dynamic Action for a Sustainable Planet



LONG BEACH ALLIANCE
FOR CLEAN ENERGY

WOMEN'S ENERGY MATTERS

March 25, 2024

To:

The Honorable Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Member of the California State Assembly
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Strong Support for AB 2054 (Rebecca Bauer-Kahan): Public Utilities Commission and Energy Commission: commissioners: employment.

Dear Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, :

We, the following undersigned organizations, are writing in strong support for AB 2054.

AB 2054 is an important step towards curbing the excessive and pernicious influence that PG&E, SoCal Edison, and SDG&E have over the decisions of California's government. Their undue influence has led to lax oversight, deadly wildfires, ever-rising electricity bills that are crushing the budgets of everyday people across California. Perversely, their influence is also why California ratepayers have fewer options than ever before to control their electricity bills through rooftop solar, and may have yet fewer options to control their bills through energy conservation if the Utility Tax is not reined in.

AB 2054 sensibly closes the outrageous revolving door that allows the utilities to employ former CPUC commissioners to use their significant insider knowledge and access to influence the decisions of their former colleagues. AB 2054 would prohibit a commissioner from being employed by an entity regulated by the CPUC for ten years after the expiration of their term of service.

It is bad enough that the utility industry made an astonishing \$111 million in campaign contributions to candidates at every level of government between 2017 and 2023 alone. That's on top of \$11 million of lobbying expenditures between 2020 and 2022 alone, as well as millions of additional dollars thrown around to influence the activities of NGOs and academics.

It is mind-boggling that on top of their breathtaking financial influence, it is possible for a CPUC commissioner to be making critical decisions supposedly on behalf of the public interest one day, and literally lobbying their former

colleagues on behalf of the utilities the day after. Yet, one of PG&E's senior lobbyists fits this description exactly.

Every day this revolving door is allowed to exist is a slap in the face to the public. It must be ended. And this bill must be the beginning of a larger effort to restore balance, to check the influence of the utilities, and put the public interest in the drivers' seat.

For these reasons, we are in strong support of AB 2054 and urge your aye vote.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Tanner, Organizer

jjtanner18@gmail.com

Indivisible Ca Green Team, Jennifer Tanner, leader

Center for Biological Diversity, Roger, Lin,

Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, Katherine Park, Co-leader student state advocacy

Long Beach Environmental Alliance, John Kindred, Co-Founder

CleanEarth 4Kids.org, Suzanne Hume, Director

Progressive Democrats of America, California, Mike Thaller, President

Sonoma County Democratic Party, Dale Axelrod, Chair, Leg committee

San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, Linda Seeley, Leader Democratic Club

San Joaquin Valley Democratic Club, Emily Brandt

Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains, Dorothy Reik, President

Custom Power Solar, Jean Woo,

San Lorenzo Valley Women's Club Environmental Committee, Nancy Macy, leader

350 Conejo, Alan Weiner, President

Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy, Dave Shukla, Director

Californians for Energy Choice, Eric Brooks, Leader

So Cal 350, Jack Eidt, Director

Glendale Environmental Coalition, Elise Kalfayan, Board Member

Ban SUP, Cheryl Auger, President

Ronnie D. Lipschutz, Co-director, Sustainable Systems Research Foundation

Ricolte Energy, Gopal Shanker, President

The Climate Alliance of Santa Cruz County, Magi Amma, Leader

Acterra, Action for a Healthy Planet, Lauren Weston, Executive Director

350 South Bay LA, Sherry Lear, Director

Hammond Climate Solutions, Karinna Gonzalez, Deputy Director

Defend Ballona Wetlands, Robert van de Hoek, President

Coastal Lands Action Network, Dee Fromm, Co-Founder

Ballona Institute, Marcia Hanscom, founder

350 Southland Legislative Alliance, Micheal Rochmess, Steering

California Climate Voters, Micah Perlin, Director

350 Ventura County Climate Hub, Jan Dietrick, Director

Clean Coalition, Craig Lewis, Leader

California Alliance for Community Energy, Babara Stebbins, Steering

Extinction Rebellion, Leah Redwood, Organizer

Courageous Resistance, Susan St. Louis, Leader

Local Clean Energy Alliance Jessica Tovar , Director

Hang Out Do Good, Jennifer Levin, Director

San Jose Community Energy Advocates, Ruth Merino, Leader

San Diego 350, Elizabeth Chopp, Legislative Team Co-chair

Women's Energy Matters, Jean Merrigan, Director

350 Bay Area Action, Laura Neish, Executive Director