



SEEC 2016 Climate and Energy Legislative Update

This legislative update provides brief summaries of key climate- and energy-related bills passed in the 2016 legislative session. Please note that these summaries are not comprehensive and do not provide any analysis. For full context and bill language, please refer to leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

AB 197 (Eduardo Garcia) State Air Resources Board: greenhouse gases: regulations

- » Requires the Air Resources Board, when adopting rules and regulations to achieve greenhouse gas reductions beyond the statewide emissions limit and to protect the state's most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, to prioritize rules and regulations that result in direct emission reductions at large stationary sources of greenhouse gas emissions sources and from mobile sources.

AB 1330 (Bloom) Energy efficiency

- » Requires the Public Utilities Commission to ensure that there are sufficient moneys available for electrical and gas corporations to meet efficiency targets.

AB 1550 (Gomez) Greenhouse gases: investment plan: disadvantaged communities

- » Requires the investment plan to allocate a minimum of 25% of the available moneys in the fund to projects located within, and benefitting individuals living in, disadvantaged communities and a separate and a minimum of 20% to projects that benefit low-income households, with a fair share of those moneys targeting households with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

AB 2722 (Burke) Transformative Climate Communities Program

- » Creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, which will award competitive grants to specified eligible entities for the development of transformative climate community plans, and projects that implement plans, that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and demonstrate potential climate, economic, workforce, health, and environmental benefits in disadvantaged communities that have a demonstrated need for these benefits.

AB 2800 (Quirk) Climate change: infrastructure planning

- » Requires state agencies to take into account the expected impacts of climate change when planning, designing, building, and investing in state infrastructure.
- » Requires the Natural Resources Agency to establish a Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group for the purpose of examining how to integrate scientific data concerning projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering and to make specified recommendations to the Legislature and the Strategic Growth Council.

AB 2868 (Gatto) Energy storage

- » Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to direct the state's 3 largest electrical corporations to file applications for programs and investments to accelerate widespread deployment of distributed energy storage systems.
- » Authorizes the PUC to modify and approve programs and investments in distributed energy storage systems and requires the PUC to prioritize those programs and investments that provide systems to public sector and low-income customers.

SB 32 (Pavley) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions limit.

- » Requires the Air Resources Board (ARB) to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit that is equivalent to 40% below the 1990 level to be achieved by 2030.

- » Requires ARB to prepare and submit to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and appropriate policy committees a report relating to the greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved toward those limits.

SB 1000 (Leyva) Land use: general plans: environmental justice

- » Adds to the required elements of the general plan an environmental justice element that identifies disadvantaged communities, as defined, within the area covered by the general plan.
- » Requires cities and counties to identify objectives and policies to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, identify objectives and policies to promote civil engagement in the public decision-making process, and identify objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

SB 1414 (Wolk) Energy

- » Requires a customer or contractor to certify that an energy efficiency improvement or installation complies with any applicable specifications or requirements set forth in the California Building Standards Code in order to receive a rebate or incentive.

SB 1383 (Lara) Short-lived climate pollutants

- » Requires the Air Resources Board (ARB) to approve and begin implementing that comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants to achieve a reduction in methane by 40%, hydrofluorocarbon gases by 40%, and anthropogenic black carbon by 50% below 2013 levels by 2030.
- » Establishes targets for reducing organic waste in landfills and imposes a state-mandated local program.
- » Requires ARB to adopt regulations to reduce methane emissions from livestock and dairy manure management operations.
- » Authorizes local governments to charge and collect fees to recover the costs incurred in complying.

SB 1386 (Wolk) Resource conservation: working and natural lands

- » Declares it to be the policy of the state that the protection and management of natural and working lands, as defined, are a key strategy in meeting the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals, and would require all state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection and management of natural and working lands.

SB 1393 (De León) Energy efficiency and pollution reduction.

- » Removes the requirement for a local publicly owned electric utility to notify and report to the Energy Commission regarding its renewable energy resources procurement plan.
- » Requires the Energy Commission to review technology incentive, research, development, deployment, and market facilitation programs operating in California and overseen by academia and the private and nonprofit sectors, and make recommendations to advance state clean energy and pollution reduction objectives and provide benefits to disadvantaged communities.

SB 1425 (Pavley) Water-energy nexus registry

- » Requires the Environmental Protection Agency to oversee the development of a registry for greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the water-energy nexus using the best available data.

SB 1464 (De León) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: GHG emissions reduction

- » Requires that the investment plan assess how proposed investments interact with current state regulations, policies, and programs, and evaluate if and how the proposed investments could be incorporated into existing programs.
- » Requires the investment plan to recommend metrics that would measure progress and benefits from the proposed programmatic investments.