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California Legislature

APPROPRIATIONS
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION

E-MAIL

Assemblymember.EduardoGarcia@asm.ca.gov



EDUARDO GARCIA
CHAIR OF ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ECONOMY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-SIXTH DISTRICT

March 3, 2015

Mr. Keith Casey
Vice President of Market and Infrastructure Development
California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
250 Outcropping Way
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear Mr. Casey:

I am writing to state my support for the Blythe Energy Loop-In Project. The project proposes to modify its existing 67-mile gen-tie transmission line into a transmission network line by segmenting the line and looping it. This change improves system reliability in the Blythe region and downstream from the loop. The Loop-In Project provides significant economic benefits and allows renewable energy projects to connect into the site.

As a strong supporter of renewable energy, I support this multi-benefit project that provides both assisting renewable energy and adding upgrades to the existing transmission in eastern Riverside County. The transmission support is vital to the thousands of megawatts of renewable energy projects in the region. Without the upgrade, some projects will face substantial costs to connect to the transmission grid.

The Loop-In Project also provides economic benefits to the region. The project will create more than a dozen jobs in the region and may spur hundreds of other jobs if the project jumpstarts some stalled renewable projects dealing with interconnection issues. Economic studies show that the project will provide \$165 million in income tax and more than \$25 million in property tax revenue. Most importantly, the project reduces the cost of energy and provides consumer benefits in excess of \$14 million in the first year alone.

Not only does the project assist renewable energy and create significant economic benefits, it will have a minimal impact to the environment. It is for these reasons, that I encourage CAISO to approve this needed project. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (916) 319-2056

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eduardo Garcia".

Eduardo Garcia
Assemblymember, District 56