

**2024 BILLS in the CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE that would
SLOW CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLEAN UP the ENVIRONMENT**

Bills Endorsed by the Solar Rights Alliance

***Priority: Restore incentives for rooftop solar in CA. (AB 2619, SB1374, AB2256, SB1148.)
Restore incentives for energy conservation. (AB1999) Rooftop solar provides half the
renewable energy in CA, but has been derailed in 2023-4 by CPUC decisions.***

AB 1999 (Irwin) would stop the big Utility Tax by capping it at \$10/month and prohibiting it from rising any faster than inflation.

NOTE: A *loophole* in AB 1999 would still give the CPUC discretion to allow a high Utility Tax on ratepayers who live in apartment buildings and mobile homes, EV owners, and people who install solar panels under the new "NEM3" rules. This loophole needs to be closed to ensure that all ratepayers are protected, restoring incentives for energy conservation.

AB 2619 (Connolly) would **ban solar taxes** and require the CPUC to revise their **net metering** decision **to align with the state's actual clean energy goals.**

SB 1374 (Becker) would **restore the right of renters, farmers, and schools** to make and consume their own **solar energy**, a right the CPUC took away last year.

AB 2256 (Friedman) would require the CPUC to include **all** the **benefits of rooftop solar** when deciding how much **credit** solar users get.

AB 2054 (Bauer-Kahan) would **ban former CPUC commissioners** from being **employed by the companies they regulate** for ten years after their term ends.

SB 938 (Min) would **prohibit for-profit utilities from lobbying with ratepayer funds.**

AB 3118 (Wallis) would make **rooftop solar** the "**official state energy**" of California.

Bills Endorsed by Citizens Climate Lobby

Priority: Increase capacity of existing transmission lines (SB1006) and speed up construction of new transmission lines (AB914, AB1829, SB1165), to increase capacity to transmit renewable energy. Ensure that environmental justice communities can benefit from renewable energy (SB1148, AB1176, SB1054)

SB 1148 (Blakespear) would restore financial feasibility for **multifamily dwellings and local government buildings** to install energy saving devices including rooftop solar by exempting them **from the requirement that every residential unit be individually metered** for electrical service. Would allow **multifamily dwellings** to use a **microgrid** if it would reduce electricity costs for each tenant, use electricity generated from renewable energy sources, and pay prevailing wages to the workers employed in the construction of the dwelling, and if the owner of the dwelling bills tenants using one of 3 specified methods. It would also **allow local government buildings with multiple meters to install a master meter**, if it meets the requirements shown above.

AB 914 (Friedman) would set a **2-year time limit** for completion of **Environmental Assessment of proposed electrical infrastructure projects**.

AB 1176 (Chavez-Zbur) would **require** local governments to develop **plans for more charging stations and zero emission technologies**, including in **disadvantaged communities**, and to incorporate these plans into their **General Plans by 2028**

AB 1829 (Patterson) would **extend** the existing **requirement that the CPUC issue a certificate of public convenience and necessity for proposed transmission lines within 18 months** of application submission **for renewable energy projects**.

SB 308 (Becker) would require the state Energy Board to adopt a regulation by 12/31/27 **requiring greenhouse gas “emitting entities” to purchase negative emissions credits** equal to a specified amount of their greenhouse gas emissions beginning in **2028**.

SB 755 (Becker) would require the Energy Commission to develop and make publicly available a **website listing residential energy efficiency and building decarbonization programs** administered by the Energy Commission

SB 1006 (Padilla) would **require transmission utilities (e.g. SDG&E) to prepare a “grid-enhancing technologies strategic plan”** by 2026, in order to **increase transmission capacity, and increase capacity to connect new renewable energy and zero-carbon resources**; and require them to **evaluate every 4 years** which of its transmission and distribution lines can be **reconducted with advanced conductors to increase transmission or distribution capacity** and increase capacity **to connect new renewable energy and zero-carbon resources**.

SB 1036 (Limón) would make it **unlawful to certify, sell, or issue a voluntary carbon offset** if it's **known or should be known** that the **offset is unlikely to be quantifiable, real, and additional**.

SB 1054 (Rubio) Would make **grants** available through local service providers, nonprofit organizations, and regional collections of local governments to **provide financial assistance to low-income households for the purchase of zero-carbon-emitting appliances**.

SB 1165 (Padilla) would allow **expedited Environmental Review** on transmission line projects that the Commission certifies as **Environmental Leadership Development** projects.

Bills Endorsed by California Environmental Voters

Priority: Encourage divestment from fossil fuels (SB252) as an effective way to decrease funding for new drilling.

SB252 (Gonzales, Stern, Wiener) would require **CA public pension funds to divest from fossil fuel investments**

SB1221 (Min) – would provide regulatory guidance to **ensure responsible utility planning** and further enable **gas utilities** to pursue cost-effective, **zero-emission alternatives**, with equity, labor, and consumer protection benefits. **Would ensure that low-income Californians are the first beneficiaries of transition away from fossil fuels like gas.**

SB3233 (Addis) – Would clarify that **local entities** (cities, counties, etc.) **can limit or prohibit oil and gas operations or development** within their jurisdictions.

FUND SB253 (Wiener) – **Passed 2023**, requires large public **corporations** (over \$1 billion/yr.) that do business in CA to **report greenhouse gas emissions** from the prior year. **Governor didn't include funding for this law in 2024 budget proposal.**

Environmental Cleanup Bills

Priority: Reduce plastic waste and plastic nanoparticles in our food and water (SB1053, SB1167.) Protect our border communities (SB1178, SB1208)

SB 1053 (Blakespear/Allen) & **AB2236** (Bauer-Kahan) would **close loophole** in single use **plastic bag ban** to ban thick plastic bags given in grocery stores, etc. (supposedly re-useable but are not re-used). Plastic grocery and merchandise bags disposed by Californians grew from 147,038 tons, or roughly 8 pounds per person, in 2004 to 231,072 tons, or roughly 11 pounds per person, in 2021.

SB1167 (Blakespear) would **require chain restaurants** in CA to provide washable, **reusable cups** for dine-in customers instead of **disposable plastic or paper cups**.

SB 1045 (Blakespear) would encourage food waste **composting facilities** by establishing timelines for local approval of these facilities. (CA needs 50 – 100 more to meet **methane reduction** goals.)

SB1066 (Blakespear) would require producers of **marine flares** (which contain toxic metals and pollutants that render them hazardous and explosive, **endangering boaters**) to fund a system to collect and **dispose of them properly**.

SB 1178 (Padilla) would require **large corporations** (2,500 or more employees) doing business in California to **report their waste water discharges** that can result in contamination of California watersheds (including **border sewage**). CA would quantify the costs of mitigating that contamination. **Company could remedy the containment** itself, **or pay a fee** to the State to do it on their behalf.

SB 1208 (Padilla) would **prohibit licensing a proposed new landfill** to be used for the disposal of nonhazardous solid waste that would be **located within the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve or an area that is tributary to the Tijuana River**.