



California League of United Latin American Citizens

State Office

October 22, 2015

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Room 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Governor Brown and Commissioner Picker:

We write in support of net metering and continuing the growth of solar in California. With approximately 132,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 1,000 LULAC councils nationwide.

We strongly support California's leadership in fighting climate change and laying the foundation for a clean energy future. The state is a global leader in promoting cleaner energy, which has already created thousands of jobs for Hispanic workers. While not yet fully realizing its potential, California has already shown the opportunity solar can present for Latino residents. It is essential the state not turn back and continue to push forward.

Latinos are uniquely positioned to benefit from the growth of solar. Every month, an estimated 50,000 Latinos turn 18 and are entering the workforce. Solar jobs can provide opportunities for these youth. Whether as an installer, sales representative or executive, we see a future for Latinos in the growing clean energy economy.

In California, there are over 50,000 solar jobs across the state with 7,500 created just in the past year. Latinos represent 20% of the state's solar workforce. And this is in the early stages of the industry's growth. We ask the Commission focus on how to further integrate our community in to the clean energy economy to ensure all households and workers stand to benefit.

P.O. Box 1362 Camarillo, CA 93011-1362 • 805-258-1800

LULAC, Serving California's Latino Community Since 1947

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Beyond the economic opportunities solar presents for our community, solar has the potential to provide us with healthier neighborhoods. A disproportionate number of Hispanics live near power plants or in counties with unhealthy levels of ozone pollution. Almost 1 in 10 Hispanic children under the age of 18 suffer from asthma. Because of our community's health care access disparities, these youth are vulnerable to severe illness.

We cannot afford policies that promote dirtier sources of energy and pollution.

We ask that California continue to lead on the environment and clean energy. Your leadership will help ensure that the clean energy economy continues to spread and benefit Hispanic Americans.

Thank you for your consideration and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me directly at 805-258-1800. My email address is dave.rodriquez.lulac@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David M. Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

David M. Rodriguez, California State President
Member, LULAC National Board of Directors

cc: California LULAC State Legislative Committee