

Exec-2009-003149



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

February 23, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: State Energy Program Assurances

Dear Mr. Secretary,

As a condition of receiving California's share of the \$3.1 billion in funding for the State Energy Program (SEP) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 1) (ARRA), I am providing the following assurances

The California Public Utilities Commission has set in place policies and procedures to promote energy efficiency, consistent with the federal statutory language contained in H.R. 1 and their obligations to maintain just and reasonable rates, while protecting the public. California has residential and commercial building codes in place that include some of the strictest energy efficiency standards in the nation. The 2008 Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Standards) are approaching 30 percent above both the ASHRAE 90.1-2004 and the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code standards, and the California Energy Commission is on course to achieve zero net energy buildings through its Standards by 2020 for residential buildings and by 2030 for nonresidential buildings.

We anticipate that our state's efficiency requirements significantly exceed the national consensus standards specified in the ARRA. In addition, California is committed to implementing a plan for achieving compliance with these Standards in at least 90 percent of all newly constructed buildings and in at least 90 percent of all additions and alterations to existing buildings within eight years of the enactment date of this Act.

Our state has been, and continues to be, at the forefront of our nation's efforts to use energy efficiently, employ renewable energy sources and further reduce the environmental impacts of our energy use. We are prioritizing our energy investments to take advantage of existing programs and to expand programs where appropriate.

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I trust that this is sufficient assurance of our state's compliance with the conditions for full SEP funding in HR. 1, and I look forward to immediate distribution of the federal SEP funds to permit our state to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy. If you have any further need for information regarding our state's compliance with these conditions, I request that you inform us immediately and give us the opportunity to supplement the record.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger

cc: Mr. Gil Sperling, Director
Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs
U.S. Department of Energy
Mr. David Terry, Executive Director
National Association of State Energy Officials
State Energy Director