

April 12, 2011

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 2 (First Extraordinary Session) which will extend the current 20% renewables portfolio standard target in 2010 to a 33% renewables portfolio standard by December 31, 2020.

This bill will bring many important benefits to California, including stimulating investment in green technologies in the state, creating tens of thousands of new jobs, improving local air quality, promoting energy independence, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It will ensure that California maintains its long-standing leadership in renewables and clean energy.

While reaching a 33% renewables portfolio standard will be an important milestone, it is really just a starting point - a floor, not a ceiling. Our state has enormous renewable resource potential. I would like to see us pursue even more far-reaching targets. With the amount of renewable resources coming on-line, and prices dropping, I think 40%, at reasonable cost, is well within our grasp in the near future.

The bill contains some provisions that will create implementation difficulties or inefficiencies, particularly for regulatory agencies charged with the bill's implementation. These provisions should be amended quickly. Therefore, while I am signing this bill today, I ask the Legislature to immediately begin work on additional legislation to correct these problems.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.