



**IBEW**

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October 31, 2011

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

Subject: Proposed Decision Granting, with Modifications, the Motion by Clean Coalition for Immediate Amendments of the Southern California Edison Company AB1969 CREST Power Purchase Agreement

Dear California Public Utilities Commission,

We are very appreciative of the ruling, published October 11, 2011, by Administrative Law Judge DeAngeles. This ruling is a critical step forward towards resolution of the inherent flaws in the existing CREST PPA.

It is imperative that the ruling is ratified at the 11/10/11 CPUC meeting.

Project developers collectively have interest in over 100 MW of active solar PV projects that are currently blocked from progress within the existing CREST program. Many, if not most, of these projects rely on federal 1603 cash tax grant awards in order to be economically viable. The 1603 grant program expires on December 31, 2011. In order to secure safe harbor for projects under the 1603 program, developers must make a significant, non-refundable, monetary investment towards projects prior to December 31, 2011.

By ratifying the decision at the November 10, 2011 Commission meeting, developers will have just 7 weeks to effect the signing of PPA's, fund projects, and execute the required cash investments by December 31, 2011. This is an extremely short period of time in which to accomplish this activity.

Any delay in ratification of this decision will hinder, and most likely block, the ability of projects to qualify for the tax grant. This in turn will block the construction and related jobs that will be created by these projects, along with the support services to maintain them, for an indefinite and potentially permanent time.

Thus, we strongly urge the Commission to ratify the decision of ALJ DeAngeles, such that the PPA is modified to allow these projects to proceed.

Sincerely

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