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May 3, 2012

Assemblymember Steven Bradford
51st Assembly District
State Capitol
PO Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0051

Re: AB 2514 – Support

Dear Assemblymember Bradford:

The Greenlining Institute (Greenlining) offers its support to Assembly Bill 2514, as amended on May 1. Greenlining is a staunch supporter of a cleaner energy portfolio in California that includes distributed generation from solar and other well-suited renewable sources. However, as an advocate for low income ratepayers, we believe this portfolio shift must take place in a way that doesn't overly burden the customers who can't afford to "go solar" themselves.

Net metering as currently structured may present just such a burden, in which customers who can't afford to go solar wind up subsidizing those who can. To the best of Greenlining's knowledge, no research has yet been conducted by a neutral source to determine whether this kind of cross-subsidization is taking place. The study proposed in AB 2514 is needed to make this determination.

As such, we support the proposal to conduct objective research assessing who bears the cost burden of distributed generation, to ensure that the costs are being allocated in a fair manner that still promotes the development of renewable distributed generation. We look forward to working with the CPUC to achieve the right balance between these two important goals – protecting low income ratepayers and promoting the shift toward clean energy.

Please feel free to contact Samuel Kang with any questions. He can be reached at 510-926-4004 or samuelk@greenlining.org.

Sincerely,



Samuel S. Kang
General Counsel



Stephanie Chen
Senior Legal Counsel

Enrique Gallardo
Legal Counsel

CC: Speaker John A. Pérez
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