

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Office of Governmental Affairs
770 L Street, Suite 1230
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 327-3277



May 26, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
State Capitol, Room 4126
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 758 (Skinner) – As Amended April 14, 2009 – Oppose Unless Amended
Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Dear Assemblywoman Skinner:

On May 21, 2009, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) voted unanimously to oppose AB 758 unless it is amended. This bill would, among its provisions, require the California Energy Commission (CEC), by March 1, 2010, to develop a comprehensive energy efficiency program for existing residential and commercial building stock that falls significantly below current Title 24 building standards. This bill would also require the CPUC, by January 1, 2011, to authorize each IOU to provide a targeted number of low or no-cost energy efficiency audits each calendar year, and to report the audit results annually to the Legislature and the CEC under certain conditions.

The CPUC fully supports the goal of achieving all cost-effective energy efficiency, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and the development of a more comprehensive approach to achieving efficiency savings in existing buildings. However, this bill, as currently written, would create confusion over the roles of the CEC and the CPUC and needs to be clarified. In addition, the bill would need to clarify the scope and authority extended to the CEC. Further, because there are substantial potential natural gas savings from gas space heating and water heaters, the bill should be amended to also require gas utilities to provide a targeted number of audits.

Please see the attached analysis for a more detailed explanation of the CPUC's position.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call me at (916) 327-7788.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Poe".

MICHAEL POE
Legislative Liaison

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Kevin DeLeon, Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Chuck Nicol, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Anthony Archie, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Gina Adams, Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee
Daryl Thomas, Assembly Republican Caucus/Policy
Arnie Sowell, Policy Director for the Speaker
John Moffatt, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger