April 9, 2013

Honorable Bill Quirk
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2175
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 448 (Quirk) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Quirk:

Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). DRA’s statutory mandate is to obtain the lowest possible rates for utility services consistent with safe and reliable service levels. DRA also advocates for customer and environmental protections in connection with utility service.

DRA supports your AB 448, as amended on March 19, 2013, which would require the California Energy Commission, as part of its Integrated Energy Policy Report, to include an assessment of overall ratepayer impact for the electrical utilities to comply with California’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program. This bill would also require an assessment on the impact of RPS on overall air quality, reliability, and options for increasing the cost-effectiveness and reliability of the State’s RPS goals.

DRA strongly supports renewable energy at the lowest cost to customers. AB 448 would augment the State’s renewable efforts by providing decision makers with necessary cost, reliability and environmental information needed to make well-informed decisions on achieving our renewable goals in the most cost-effective manner. We look forward to working with you to help enact the bill into law.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call DRA’s Legislative Advisor Rebecca Tsai-Wei Lee, at (916) 327-1407 or me at (415) 703-2381.

Respectfully,

Joseph P. Como, Acting Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates

By
Rebecca Lee
Legislative Advisor