June 10, 2008

Honorable Sam Blakeslee
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4117
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1763 (Blakeslee) Support, if amended

Dear Assemblymember Blakeslee:

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

DRA supports the proposed amendments to your AB 1763. The proposed amendments would delete references to the California Energy Commission’s Energy Action Plan II and would delete specified cost and comparison bill components that could potentially confuse customers with too much information. By making these changes, AB 1763 would help consumers better understand their monthly utility bills and also help them make decisions to reduce their electricity or gas usage.

DRA strongly supports your bill’s efforts to make electric and gas utility monthly bills more user-friendly and looks forward to supporting AB 1763 with the aforementioned changes.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call DRA’s Legislative Director Matthew Marcus, at (916) 327-3455 or me at (415) 703-2544.

Respectfully,

Dana S. Appling, Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates