April 10, 2018

The Honorable Henry Stern
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3070
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1339 (Stern) – Support

Dear Senator Stern:

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). ORA’s mission is to advocate for the lowest possible rates for customers of California’s regulated utilities consistent with safe, reliable service levels and the state’s environmental goals.

ORA supports SB 1339, as introduced on February 16, 2018, which would require electric utilities to include in their distribution resources plan proposals submitted to the CPUC an evaluation of the capacity for distributed energy resources (DERs) to enhance electrical grid resiliency.

ORA supports the goal of this bill to provide the CPUC and stakeholders with additional information to assess the ability of DERs to contribute to the prevention of, and/or recovery from significant grid disturbances. This information will help evaluate the benefits and costs of DERS.

ORA looks forward to working with you on this legislation. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (415) 703-2381 or at elizabeth.echols@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Echols
Director