



with a rapid and responsible expansion and upgrade of distribution lines, substations and other energy infrastructure. An analysis from the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab found that the interconnection process can take up to 3 years, noting that excessive environmental review and frivolous legal challenges are a significant contributor to the delay.

### **SB 420 Builds on the Direction Provided by SB 529 (Hertzberg)**

SB 529 provided clear direction to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to update their existing general order to authorize electrical corporations to use a more streamlined process for an expansion, extension, or upgrade of an existing transmission facility. **SB 420** builds on the clear intent provided by SB 529 and expands the streamlined process to projects below 138 kilovolts. This language ensures that load serving entities have the appropriate tools in place to meet our future energy needs. Moreover, it will foster economic growth, create job opportunities, and position California as a leader in clean energy innovation.

### **SB 420 Appropriately Balances Environmental Protections with Future Energy Demand**

**SB 420** aligns with state and federal protections to streamline the regulatory approval process while protecting the public, environment, and wildlife. Specifically, **SB 420** prohibits a streamlined permitting process for any project that is located in a wetland, unpremeditated sites, or within a critical habitat as defined in State and Federal law. California must increase the state's capacity for renewable energy generation to better meet anticipated demand. **SB 420** will ensure a reliable supply of electricity for a growing economy and our residents and businesses by striking the appropriate balance between environmental protection and allowing load serving entities to save on project costs and delays which ultimately benefits ratepayers. **SB 420** offers a clear-eyed response to the state's clean energy goals so that California is best equipped to meet the ever-growing demand for clean energy in California.

For these reasons, we strongly support **SB 420** and respectfully ask for your "AYE" vote.

Sincerely,



Brady Van Engelen  
Policy Advocate  
California Chamber of Commerce  
On behalf of

Bay Area Council, Alex Torres  
BOMA California, Matthew Hargrove  
California Building Industry Association, Chris Ochoa  
California Business Property Association, Matthew Hargrove  
California Business Roundtable, Rob Lapsly  
California Chamber of Commerce, Brady Van Engelen  
California Construction and Industrial Materials Association, Adam Harper  
California Grain and Feed Association, Chris Zanobini  
California Manufacturers & Technology Association, Robert Spiegel  
California Retailers Association, Ryan Allain  
California Warehouse Association, Ann Quinn  
Chico Chamber of Commerce, Mike Egbert  
Family Business Association of California, Robert Rivinius  
Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, Claudette Baldemor  
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, Hillary Haenes  
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, Brandon Marley  
Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, Danielle Borja  
Greater Escondido Chamber of Commerce, James Rowten  
Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce, Mark Creffield  
Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce, Henry Rogers

La Verne Chamber of Commerce, Leah Skinner  
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Jeremy Harris  
Murrieta Wildomar Chamber of Commerce, Patrick Ellis  
NAIOP California, Matthew Hargrove  
Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, Scott Ashton  
Redding Chamber of Commerce, Jake Mangas  
Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce, Dominik Knoll  
San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, Elise Swanson  
South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce, Mark Waronek  
The Chamber Newport Beach, Steve Rosansky  
Torrence Chamber of Commerce, Donna Duperron  
Vista Chamber of Commerce, Rachel Beld  
Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce, Bob Linscheid  
Western Growers Association, Gail Delihant

cc: Senator Josh Becker  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson, Vice Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy  
Members, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy  
Laura Shybut, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy  
Gregory Melkonian, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus