



25th

ANNIVERSARY



Wednesday, May 4, 2016 Mulvaney's 1215-19th Street Sacramento, California



A Change is Gonna Come

Dear CEERT family,

Looking back on the past 25+ years I think we can rightly say that change has been a long, a long time coming. But we know it's gonna come.

CEERT was built on the foundation laid by California's renewable energy pioneers, and the passion and foresight of environmentalists about the urgency of global warming and the need to phase out fossil fuels. This unique and occasionally fractious, partnership has endured and helped shape a new era of promise and possibilities.

We are proud to celebrate our collective vision, tenacity, foresight, and comradeship, and all the battles we have won and lost. We have stayed focused on the tasks at hand, while keeping an eye on the far horizon.

Never afraid to be ahead of our time, or to challenge conventional wisdom, learning from missteps and setbacks, we've adapted and innovated.

Tonight we are truly grateful and blessed for the opportunity to make a difference.

Thank you for bringing your faith, friendship, talent and dedication to CEERT's vision of a sustainable and sustaining energy future.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "V. John White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

V. John White

Executive Director

Track 1: The Laws Must Change (1989 - 1991)

Even before the 501(c) (3 & 4) nonprofits there was a kindred core of environmentalists, NGO activists, utility regulatory war veterans, and innovative energy technology business leaders; Folks like Hap Boyd (US Wind), Sara Myers (PUC attorney), Don Aitken (UCS), Joshua Bar Lev (Luz Intl), Rich Ferguson (Sierra Club), Ralph Cavanagh (NRDC), and others looking for ways to bring environmental values to bear in public energy policy decisions.

Clean Power Campaign helped pass the first legislation in 1992 mandating air pollution reductions be considered in procurement (Byron Sher) and the first renewable set-aside in procurement (Tom Hayden).

Track 2: R-E-S-P-E-C-T (1989 - Present)

Integral to CEERT's core mission has been our 25+ years of presence as intervenors in every significant proceeding of the California PUC relating to renewable energy, in the person of our Chief Regulatory Counsel, the first lady of utility regulation, Sara Steck Myers and her associates Susanna, Oliver and Megan Myers. Under Sara's watchful eye the term "the CEERT parties" has earned respect from CPUC commissioners, staff, and opponents for demanding faithful implementation of laws and a level playing field for renewable energy participants.

Track 3: Bang a Gong (1992 - 1995)

CEERT's debut on the energy policy stage came in SCE's 90 BRPU order at the CPUC, which produced an astonishing 600 Mw of competitively bid renewables supply procurement. Our overnight success came after 3 years of hammering at the CEC, painstakingly documenting the record in the 1990 ER for how environmental costs could be quantified and counted in utility cost models. CEERT brought in experts like Cal's Tim Duane, Jim Caldwell, Bill Marcus, and many more from our energy companies to establish why clean energy resources should be preferred.

Track 4: California Dreamin' (1993 - 1994)

Even though the BRPU renewables procurement was later overturned on appeal to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, California gained notice and a Pew Trust grant to begin incubating CEERT-like regional advocacy groups like Renewables Northwest, Texas Wind Coalition, Wind on the Wires, and others. A national mobilization for renewables policy began to take shape.

Track 5: Helter Skelter (1994 - 1996)

The political shock wave of energy supply planning spooked utility companies and regulators into the ill-conceived deregulation debacle of 1994 - 1996. Hatched in secret deals and death-marched through the Legislature with inadequate safeguards or review, California's wholesale electricity markets were thrown open to power market traders.

CEERT tried to make green marketing and retail sales of renewables work in practice, helped establish the "Green E" program to independently verify green claims, and the Climate Registry to track and verify voluntary GHG emission reductions by large companies.

V. John White served on the CAISO board of governors, which gave him a front row seat on the meltdown of the wholesale electricity market from price-rigging by energy traders like Enron and other leading proponents of the scheme. Power blackouts, utility bankruptcies, general fund raids, an unprecedented gubernatorial recall, and the repeal of whole parts of deregulation followed. CEERT fought for renegotiation of one-sided long-term power contracts signed by the CDWR, which cost Californians billions in overcharges. In this time of political fear and loathing CEERT and CPC toiled on every front to adapt and keep clean energy policy from getting swept away in the swirling tides of recrimination.

Track 6: I Want to Take You Higher (2002 - present)

After the collapse of the electricity wholesale market - and with continued public support for renewables - energy advocates changed strategy and demanded aggressive procurement thresholds. The passage of SB 1078 (Sher) in 2002 and signed by Gray Davis, mandated that 17% of the power sold by retail sellers of electricity by 2006 must come from renewable sources. This goal was upped in 2006 to 20% by 2010 by SB 107 (Simitian), and again to 33% by 2020 in SB 2X in 2011, and to 50% by 2030 by SB 350 (De Leon) in 2015.

Track 7: Here Comes the Sun (2003 - 2005)

CEERT and CPC supported Jan McFarland in the design, development, and lobbying for the million solar roofs initiative, which got the solar industry \$3 billion over 10 years. We also sought to add conditions for system performance and program transparency but those riffs didn't make it into the final mix.

Track 8: Stop In the Name of Love (2005)

Against the backdrop of the 2005 muni elections, CEERT helped convince LA Mayor Jimmy Hahn to withdraw from the planned expansion of the coal-fired IPP-3 project in Utah and commit LADWP to 20% renewables by 2017, effectively killing the long-planned coal project. CEERT also helped convince Hahn's successor, Antonio Villaraigosa to continue on the pathway to renewables.

Track 9: RETI for Love (2007 - 2011)

Led by Dave Olsen and Rich Ferguson, CEERT helped develop the first renewable policy driven transmission line in the Tehachapi wind zone, with construction costs financed by SCE, and paid back over time by renewable generators. RETI became the first planning blueprint which coordinated transmission planning with future renewable procurement, and laid the foundation for the successful build out to 33% RPS.

Track 10: You Can Get It If You Really Want (2013 - present)

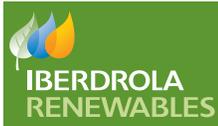
To answer fears about possible oversupply and excessive costs from adding more renewables to the California grid, CEERT sponsored the 2030 Low Carbon Grid Study which was led by Jim Caldwell and Ali Ehlen and overseen by a steering committee led by Roby Roberts. Using a model developed by NREL and assumptions from the Energy Commission, the LCG study showed how California could achieve 50% renewables by 2030 with minimal added cost to ratepayers and with no degradation of reliability. The findings of this study helped pave the way for passage and signing of SB 350 in 2015.





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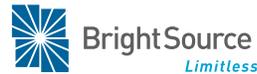
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