The Tehachapi Wind Energy Project
and the
California Global Warming Solutions Act
of 2006

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Rich Ferguson, PhD
Research Director, CEERT
California has taken the first step toward limiting climate change by passing Assembly Bill 32 in 2006.

“By January 1, 2008, the state board [CARB] shall .... determine what the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level was in 1990, and approve .... a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit that is equivalent to that level, to be achieved by 2020.”

- Part 3, § 38550 (Division 25.5, CA Health and Safety Code)
To meet California’s greenhouse gas reduction goals, the use of fossil fuels must decline.
Demand for energy will grow as California’s population increases.
Q How can California reduce the use of fossil fuels to meet its global warming goals while continuing to supply needed energy for its growing population?

A California must increase reliance on its non-fossil energy resources. There is no other technically feasible and cost-effective option.
More of California’s electricity must be generated from non-fossil energy resources.

**California Electricity by Fuel Type**
AB 32 scenario - equal CO₂ emissions from coal and gas
(Billion Kilowatt-hours)

- **Non-fossil**
- **Fossil**

1990: 240 GWh, 80 GWh
2005: 290 GWh, 50 GWh
2020: 360 GWh, 40 GWh
To limit climate change, California’s electricity increasingly will come from the sun, wind and the Earth.
The challenge facing California is to develop its non-fossil resources quickly enough.
Providing transmission access to large amounts of new non-fossil generation to meet the AB 32 goals is a difficult task and time is short.

A concerted effort is underway to plan for the changes in the state’s electricity system required by AB 32. Adequate transmission is an essential component. The new CAISO transmission planning process will be invaluable. With the CAISO’s help, we can accomplish California’s climate change goals.