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Concerned Scientists
Science for a healthy planet and safer world

March 28, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Kevin de León
President pro Tempore, California Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Ph.D.
Speaker, California Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown, President pro Tempore De León and Speaker Rendon:

In recent years, California's exciting economic growth has helped working families get ahead and small businesses succeed. But to power our vibrant economic future *and* make the critical transition to cheaper and cleaner energy resources, California must lead the way toward integration of our Western power grid.

We write to encourage you to support legislative action to allow the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), to become a regional Western Grid Operator. Doing so will expand our clean energy markets and grow our clean-tech sector, while also improving reliability and reducing costs for electricity customers across the West. It will also save Californians billions of dollars over the next two decades in reduced electricity bills.

Affordable, reliable and clean energy are crucial to households, businesses, farms, hospitals and schools across our state. California needs Western grid integration to enhance control of our own energy future, while increasing transparency and safeguarding against price gouging. All participating Western states can and should retain oversight and authority over their own respective utilities and energy policies.

An integrated Western Grid is essential to a goal that we know all of you share: meeting our ambitious clean energy targets while driving down energy costs and creating new good-paying jobs. We urge you to continue the process toward legislative authorization of a transition to a fully independent board

for an independent grid operator that all western utilities and generators will have the opportunity to join.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



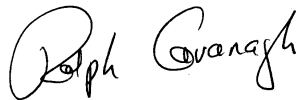
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Laura Wisland
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cc: Members of the California Senate
Members of the California Assembly