



CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION

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March 22, 2018

Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry,
4th Assembly District
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0004

RE: AB-2208 SUPPORT

California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) is writing in support of AB-2208 (Aguiar-Curry). AB-2208 is a step in the right direction to help forest managers reduce the mega wildfires that have been plaguing our wild lands for decades. Forest biomass can be burned with catastrophic wildfires as is presently happening; or that same biomass can be burned in the emission controlled environment of a furnace tied to a bioenergy power plant.

Currently, bioenergy power plants produce less than 5% of the renewable energy for California. Bioenergy energy should have, and deserves, a bigger piece of the renewable energy pie – and we should set an achievable target like 25% or 4,000 megawatts of power production for the state. Doing this will help meet Governor Brown's state mandate of generating half of the electric power from renewable sources by the year 2030. Many of these existing power plants are located in the Central Valley. Future constructed power plants can be small to mid-size, 10 to 40 megawatts, and should be located in or near the forest. This will keep transportation cost down as well as minimize unnecessary emissions from hauling bioenergy fuel from the forest to the Central Valley. AB-2208, as currently written, has set a de minimus quantity of nonrenewable fuels for each renewable energy technology at a level of no more than 2 percent of the total quantity of fuel used by the technology to generate electricity. Locating these bioenergy power plants close to the fuel source (forest) will assist in achieve that 2 percent threshold.

The California Public Utilities Commission needs to be part of this discussion. Through legislation, the power transmission companies need to construct numerous electric sub stations in the forest that bioenergy power plants can tap into. There are thousands of miles of high voltage transmission lines that span through California forestlands. This goal is achievable.

For the reasons stated above California Licensed Foresters Association SUPPORT AB-2208.

Sincerely

Thank you for your consideration,
Kieran O'Leary
President
California Licensed Foresters Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kieran O'Leary".

CLFA was formed by Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) in 1980. The Association represents Industrial, Consulting, Academic or Public foresters working together for the common cause of enhancing the role of the Professional Forester in California.