

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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December 9, 2005

John L. Geesman, Commissioner
California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 05-RPS-1078
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento CA 95814-5512

DOCKET	
03-RPS-1078	
DATE	DEC 9 2005
RECD.	DEC 9 2005

Dear Chairman Geesman:

Please accept this letter as response to your invitation for public comment on the proposed changes to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook concerning the RPS proceeding and Docket Nos. 03-RPS-1078 and 02-RPS-1038.

The State of Alaska has tremendous, untapped renewable energy potential and efforts are underway to develop hydropower projects throughout the state. Near-term hydropower projects within southeast Alaska are forecasted to produce 400MW. Statewide potential is significantly greater.

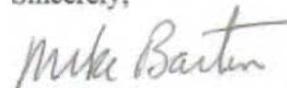
Southeast Alaska has an abundance of glacially fed lakes and streams which discharge from high elevations onto remote coastlines. Agriculture, irrigation and anadromous fish migrations are not typically issues of concern for the development of hydroelectric facilities.

Alaska's energy infrastructure is presently isolated. The southeast Alaska electrical interconnection will eventually connect power developments in Alaska to the British Columbia Transmission Corporation System and subsequently the North American power grid including California.

Alaska is willing to share its renewable resources in an effort to help alleviate California's growing energy deficit and related pollution anxiety. However, Alaska's ability to support California will be hindered by the current RPS eligibility requirements set forth by the Commission, especially criteria that limits facility capacity, permitting, water diversion and appropriation.

I respectfully request that the California Energy Commission reconsider its Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook and include existing and future hydroelectric project developments within Alaska.

Sincerely,


Mike Barton
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor, State of California