



AB 758 (Skinner) – Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings



Assembly Bill (AB) 758, introduced by California Assembly Member Nancy Skinner and sponsored by Global Green USA requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop a comprehensive energy efficiency program for existing residential and commercial buildings.

Background

- 69% of California's electricity usage and 37% of California's overall energy usage are attributed to the residential and commercial building sectors
- Almost 1/4 of California's greenhouse gas emissions can be attributed to buildings
- Consumption in these areas is projected to continue to increase

AB 758 requires the California Energy Commission to establish a regulatory proceeding, by March 1, 2010, to develop and implement a comprehensive program to achieve energy savings in the existing residential and commercial building stock that falls significantly below current Title 24 building standards. The bill would also require the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), by January 1, 2011, to authorize each electrical corporation to provide a targeted number of low- or no-cost energy efficiency audits each calendar year.

By educating homeowners and retrofitting and weatherizing existing buildings we can significantly lower utility costs for residents. Lower energy consumption means a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and less stress on the power grid, reducing the vulnerability to the rolling blackouts Californians experienced in 2000.

Current Status

Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 758 into law on October 11th, 2009. The CEC is currently drafting regulations for the program.

Current Supporters (partial list)

Global Green USA (sponsor)	Union of Concerned Scientists
Breathe California	South Coast Air Quality Management District
The Utility Reform Network (TURN)	Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Southern CA Edison	CA Business Properties Association
The Dow Chemical Company	USGBC – LA, San Diego, Northern CA
American Lung Association of CA	CA Building Industry Association
Environmental Defense Fund	Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Global Green USA is a national non-profit environmental organization that focuses on smart solutions to fight global warming with an emphasis on green buildings and sustainable cities.

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