July 9, 2021

Marybel Batjer
President
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Batjer,

California is a global leader in the fight against climate change. Our ambitious economy-wide climate policies consistently demonstrate that we can grow our economy while investing in clean energy and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful pollutants. Nowhere is this clearer than in the electric sector, where we have cut emissions by 50 percent over the past two decades. California’s proven climate policies drive innovation, investment, and deployment of clean resources throughout the state.

In 2018, the Legislature enacted Senate Bill (SB) 100, establishing a state policy to achieve 100 percent zero carbon electricity by 2045, and directing the Energy Commission, Public Utilities Commission, and Air Resources Board to complete a joint report on the costs, benefits, and actions required to accomplish this. The Public Utilities Commission’s Integrated Resources Planning process, established pursuant to SB 350, is a critical vehicle to ensure procurement and investment decisions meet the SB 100 target and safeguard reliability and affordability.

Given the urgency of combating climate change, I request that the Public Utilities Commission act quickly through its Integrated Resources Planning process to establish a more ambitious greenhouse gas emissions reduction
target for electricity sales than the current 46 million metric tons by 2030. This will ensure state efforts are driving toward achieving emissions reductions as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California