



426 17th Street
Suite 700
Oakland, CA 94612

main 858.244.1177
fax 858.244.1178
www.energycenter.org

July 23, 2015

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
Office of the Governor
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Senate Bill 502 (Senator Leno) —**STRONG SUPPORT**

Dear Governor Brown,

The Center for Sustainable Energy® (CSE; www.energycenter.org), is pleased to write in strong support of the nonpartisan and unopposed Senate Bill (SB) 502, and to encourage you to sign the bill. CSE has long advocated for the diversification of transportation and other technologies focused on air quality improvements and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reductions — both of which would be accomplished by SB 502.

SB 502 directly supports the Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART's) ability to operate an even "cleaner and greener" fleet by providing an additional Renewable Energy (RE) procurement option under Section 701.8 of the Public Utilities Code. SB 502 will explicitly allow BART to purchase wholesale electricity from a diverse range of RE resources eligible under California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).¹

Fundamentally, RE resources provide energy that is abundant, reliable, sustainable and, with modern technology and controls, flexible, and hence ideal to power BART and other transportation systems. Although 100% RE targets have not been set by BART, SB 502 establishes a path through which BART could be powered completely by clean energy and support future state-wide RE benchmarks. Furthermore, SB 502 can act as a model for our state and national transit systems, such as the California High-Speed Rail Authority, as they develop their own strategic energy and sustainability practices.

¹ Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility includes sources such as Biodiesel; Biogas/Biomethane; Biomass; Conduit hydroelectric; Digester gas; Fuel cells using renewable fuels; Geothermal; Hydroelectric incremental generation from efficiency improvements; Landfill gas; Municipal solid waste; Ocean wave, thermal, and tidal current; Photovoltaic; Small hydroelectric; Solar thermal electric; and Wind, source: California Energy Commission.



426 17th Street
Suite 700
Oakland, CA 94612

main 858.244.1177
fax 858.244.1178
www.energycenter.org

CSE is proud to stand in strong support of SB 502. It is fundamentally good transportation policy. The bill supports BART in its quest to have additional RE options, builds added resiliency and diversity to BART's electricity procurement practices, and aligns with statewide GHG emissions reductions efforts and strategies. Fundamentally, SB 502 is a win for the transportation and environmental sectors alike, and will enable BART to continue to be an exemplar of environmental leadership and stewardship.

It is CSE's perspective that all rail systems — including but not limited to BART — can and should operate as Zero-Emission Vehicles by using 100% electrified systems and 100% RE, including self-generated energy. Accordingly, CSE strongly encourages your signing of SB 502.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sachu Constantine".

Sachu Constantine
Director of Policy
Center for Sustainable Energy®

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D. Hernandez".

Paul D. Hernandez
Energy & Transportation Policy Manager
Center for Sustainable Energy®

c.c. Senator Leno, Author