



**For Immediate Release:  
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## **Inland Empire Utilities Agency Opposes Proposition 23**

*Delays in dealing with global warming and developing new renewable energy sources  
will only make the costs to the state higher*

**Chino, CA** – Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), a water and wastewater service provider to 850,000 residents in the Inland Empire, unanimously adopted a resolution opposing Proposition 23, the initiative on the November 2 ballot that proposes to suspend implementation of the state’s new climate change regulations.

“This proposed ballot measure takes California in the wrong direction” said Terry Catlin, IEUA’s Board President. “Simply waiting another five years, ten years or even longer to begin the process of adapting to global warming and developing more renewable energy to replace fossil fuel sources only makes the process more expensive and leaves water agencies in the state in a more economically vulnerable position.”

“California’s water resources are already being impacted by global warming,” Catlin continued. “Sea levels have risen, adding to the Bay Delta problems. In addition, less snow is falling in the Sierra Nevada and melting faster, with peak runoff levels occurring earlier in the year. Another problem is that energy prices will rise with the depletion of hydropower, an immediate concern that southern California is now facing on the Colorado River.”

Proposition 23 proposes to suspend the implementation of AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, until the unemployment rate in California is 5.5 percent or less for four consecutive quarters. During the suspension period, state agencies would be prohibited from proposing or adopting new regulations, or enforcing previously adopted regulations, that would implement the provisions of AB 32. However, since 1970, the state has only had three periods (each about ten quarters) when the unemployment rate was at or below 5.5 percent for four consecutive quarters or more.

“We are concerned that suspending AB 32 will not only delay our ability to deal with the impacts of global warming, but it will also impede the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects that will do so much to offset carbon emissions,” Catlin said. “We know that one of the fastest ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is by installing solar, wind, and biogas projects that replace fossil fuels.

IEUA has been a national leader since 2000 in the development of green energy projects. The Agency constructed the nation’s first platinum-rated LEED headquarters built by a water agency. IEUA currently has 3.5 MW of solar power installed and 1 MW of wind power under design. This week IEUA also signed a landmark 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with UTS to install, operate and maintain a 2.8 Megawatt (MW) fuel cell system, fueled primarily with renewable biogas, making it the largest unit of its kind in the world. The clean, efficient, renewable energy from the fuel cell system will provide power and thermal energy to IEUA’s largest water recycling plant in Ontario, California.

The Agency has a strategic energy plan goal to go “Gridless by 2020” to minimize IEUA’s dependence on energy purchases from the grid, and to be able to operate completely off the during peak energy usage periods.

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***About IEUA –***

IEUA, formed in 1950, is a municipal water district located in western San Bernardino County, California. IEUA’s mission is to supply imported drinking water, collect and treat wastewater, produce beneficially reusable compost and high quality recycled water to the 850,000 residents living within its 242-square miles service area. Shaping the Agency are the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario and Upland, as well as the Cucamonga Valley and Monte Vista Water Districts.