



March 15, 2013

Board of Governors  
California Independent System Operator  
250 Outcropping Way  
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear Board of Governors,

I am writing in support of Energy Imbalance Markets (EIM), including the proposal between PacifiCorp and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) regarding the creation of a real-time energy imbalance market.

The proposal marks a positive step forward in modernizing the Western electric grid and reducing costs to consumers. This sets an excellent example for other utilities to follow as they complete their own cost-benefit analyses and decide to pursue similar options to improve efficiency and reliability of the grid.

Energy imbalance markets have proven to be an effective tool in other parts of the country. For example, the Southwest Power Pool EIM launched in 2007 has far exceeded initial expectations. In its first year, the SPP EIM saw benefits exceeding \$100 million.

In addition to helping reduce costs for customers and improve grid reliability<sup>1</sup>, EIMs have the added benefit of providing a great opportunity for the integration of wind, solar and other renewable resources. In an ever-changing energy landscape, it is important to continue improving the grid to allow for greater integration of more renewable resources. This proposal is one such avenue for doing so.

In conclusion, we support all efforts to improve grid efficiency and diversify our energy portfolio with cleaner resources. I encourage the Board of Governors to approve the proposed creation of a real-time energy imbalance market.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Shimshak".

Rachel Shimshak  
Executive Director, Renewable Northwest Project

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.elabs7.com/c.html?ufl=7&rtr=on&s=lg13,10ifw,7k2,6sjg,8tce,b589,diqv>

- 3Degrees
- American Wind Energy Assoc.
- Blattner Energy
- Bonneville Environmental Foundation
- BP Wind Energy
- Calpine
- Center for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Technologies
- Christenson Electric
- Citizens' Utility Board
- Climate Solutions
- Columbia Gorge Community College
- Community Renewable Energy Association
- E.ON Climate & Renewables
- EDF Renewable Energy
- EDP Renewables
- Element Power
- Environment Oregon
- Environment Washington
- Eurus Energy America
- EverPower
- FirstWind
- Gaelectric
- Gamesa Energy USA
- GE Energy
- Geothermal Resources Council
- GL Garrad Hassan
- Green Mountain Energy
- Iberdrola Renewables
- Jones Stevedoring
- Kapla Law PLLC
- Lane Powell PC
- MAP
- Montana Environmental Information Center
- MontPIRG
- Natural Capital Partners
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- NaturEner
- NextEra Energy Resources
- Northwest Environmental Business Council
- Northwest SEED
- NW Energy Coalition
- Oregon Tech
- Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association
- OSPIRG
- Portland Energy Conservation, Inc.
- REC Silicon
- REpower USA
- RES America Developments
- Solar Oregon
- SolarCity
- Stoel Rives, LLP
- SunPower Corporation
- SWCA Environmental Consultants
- Tonkon Torp LLP
- Vestas Americas
- Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises
- Washington Environmental Council
- WashPIRG
- Western Resource Advocates