

Energy - Docket Optical System

From: Alex Lyte [alexanderlyte@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2012 10:11 AM
To: Energy - Docket Optical System
Subject: Use of Funds in Docket No. 12-EPIC-01



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August 17, 2012

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: Docket No. 12-EPIC-01

My name is Alexander Lyte. I am a fourth year economics and mathematics student at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

I am writing to address potential allocation of the \$162 million per year for the next nine years of California Energy Commission funding for renewable energy technology in California.

These funds are very important to grow a robust renewable energy technology industry in California, particularly with the program's emphasis on "innovation clusters".

Therefore, I feel that some of the funding should be applied to the use of a new modeling techniques for understanding the economic effects of renewable energy technologies. The 'complex systems' approach, pioneered by the Santa Fe Institute, seeks to integrate various social, cultural, and political effects into the study of economic outcomes of policy, and could be applied to great effect in understanding the outcomes of this funding.

In addition, research could be funded to find the most optimal allocations of financial resources to the development of the national renewable energy initiative. Some work has been done by Mark Newman of the University of Michigan on optimization of power grids using network theory, which produced startling results. It is possible that similar research could be applied to finding optimal allocations of renewable energy systems. For this reason, I think that some money should be directed toward research on the effective usage of renewable technology, alongside furthering the development of our national renewable energy resources.

I would be pleased to participate in such research, and involve national and international experts in this field to optimize the use of this vital funding.

Sincerely,

Alexander P. Lyte