

Alliance for Responsible Energy Policy
Argument against California Proposition 7
Solar and Clean Energy Act

VOTE NO on this deceptive scheme by big energy and wealthy investors who will use our tax dollars to take private property by eminent domain and raise our electricity rates. It is designed to expand Big Energy's stranglehold over California consumers. While this initiative spends our tax dollars it in no way informs the taxpayers how much it will all cost.

The initiative diverts tax dollars to help build the Big Solar program. Big Solar is an industry term that describes a collaborative, high profit corporate effort to assemble a multitude of very large solar power plants in California. To name this initiative CLEAN is purposely misleading because many Big Solar Plants require the burning of fossil fuels to operate. Furthermore, these very destructive and unnecessary projects will scrape hundreds of thousands of undeveloped acres and consume billions of gallons of precious California water each year. In fact, the Big Solar scheme fails to promote roof top solar, a truly clean and locally generated energy.

This initiative allows Big Solar to use our tax dollars to build new transmission lines that cost ten million dollars per mile. Even worse, it allows builders to recover construction costs whether a project is completed or not. In an effort to gain voter support the initiative asserts Big Solar will result in no more than a 3% increase in electric rates. In fact, this initiative unnecessarily complicates our

states' regulatory power which will almost certainly lead to substantial rate increases.

The initiative forces our power suppliers into long term contracts to purchase energy from the Big Solar generators. These contract periods also victimize consumers by restricting ratepayer access to technologies that will be developed or improved. In addition the initiative prevents California Courts from hearing any case related to the construction or operation of any Big Solar power plant or transmission line, thereby denying our right to use the courts to contest any of these projects. The initiative also removes power from local governments to object to the expansion of existing transmission lines.

This initiative gives the California regulatory agencies authority to fast track approval of Big Solar and transmission projects in 6 months. That time frame is insufficient to conduct the comprehensive analysis required by California laws that protect our environment. The initiative will sacrifice some of California's majestic open lands, fragile ecosystems, and ground water reserves for big energy and wealthy investor profits. We can stop this deceptive initiative – VOTE NO. For more information visit www.protectourlands.com