Research on Current California Statutes for Climate Change

…as of September 19, 2022

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# AB 32: California Global Warmings Solution Act of 2006

* **Researcher:** Alexis
* **Focus on bill:** reducing greenhouse gas emissions

**Sources:**

* [California approves big climate change steps — but one ambitious one fails](https://calmatters.org/environment/2022/09/california-climate-change-legislature/)
* [Assembly Bill No. 32](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/05-06/bill/asm/ab_0001-0050/ab_32_bill_20060927_chaptered.pdf)

### **Research/Main Ideas**

* Requires state to set a target for emissions to drop to 1990 levels by 2020 (Lopez, 2022)
* State board is asked to develop and approve a plan, that is technologically sound and cost-effective (Part 4, Section 38561, a)
  + Plan = recommendations on direct reduction measures, compliance, marketing, and incentives to reach goal by set deadline (Part 4, Section 38561, b)
  + Conduct public workshops for people to comment on the plan, focusing on regions most affected by air pollution, minorities, and low-income populations (Part 4, Section 38561, g)
* Market-Based Compliance
  + Consider direct and indirect emission impacts by those affected by air pollution (Part 5, Section 38570, b1)
* Other Regulations
  + By July 1, 2007, the state board can convene an environmental justice advisory committee of affected communities to review the plan (Part 7, Section 38591, a)
  + State board can appoint an Economic and Technology Advancement Committee to advice state board on activities helping with the funding and performance of technological research that helps with reduction of greenhouse gas (GG) emissions (Part 7, Section 38591, d)
* People argued that the bill didn’t have a clear plan, but CA took steps to erach goal than the law required → new bill didn’t gather enough support to pass (Lopez, 2022)
* GG is a hard issue to tackle, so it seems like our goal is moving farther away (Lopez, 2022)

# AB 1279: The California Climate Crisis Act

* **Researcher:** Jessie
* **Focus on bill:** Achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible but no later than 2045, and maintaining net negative greenhouse gas emissions thereafter.

**Sources:**

* [AB 1279](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1279)
* [AB 1279 - California Assembly Bill](https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB1279/)
* [California approves big climate change steps — but one ambitious one fails](https://calmatters.org/environment/2022/09/california-climate-change-legislature/)

### **Research/Main Ideas**

* Codifies the state’s existing goal (AB 24)
* To achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in California requires direct greenhouse gas emission reductions, removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and complete transition away from fossil fuel. (Section 1.a)
* Carbon dioxide removal technologies and carbon capture, ultalixation, and storage technologies are currently available but they do not avoid the drastic need to reduce the use of fossil fuel. (Section 1.c)
* Millions of Californians inhale unhealthy air (Section 1.d)
* Prioritizing direct emission reductions will aid California to meet its air quality standards and net zero greenhouse gas emissions (Section 1.e)
* Ensures that by 2045, statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 85% below 1990 levels (Section 2.b.2)
* Requires work with the state board to work with relevant state agencies to ensure updates to the state’s plan: (Section 2.d)
  + To identify and implement a variety of policies and strategies that would help enable carbon dioxide removal solutions and carbon capture, utilization and storage technology within the state to complement emissions reductions.
* By December 31, 2035, the state board will evaluate the feasibility and tradeoffs of achieving the policy goal from the bill. (Section 2.e.1)
* Requires the state board to submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee regarding the process towards the goal. (Section 2.e.2)
* The Legislative Analyst’s Office will conduct an independent analysis of the state board’s progress every two years and create a report detailing its review, including any possible suggestions for improvements.
  + The report will be accessed publicly (Section 2.e.3)

# SB 905: Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program

* **Researcher:** Alexis
* **Focus on bill:** monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases, developing the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

**Sources:**

* [AB 1279](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1279)
* [AB 1279 - California Assembly Bill](https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB1279/)
* [California approves big climate change steps — but one ambitious one fails](https://calmatters.org/environment/2022/09/california-climate-change-legislature/)

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### **Research/Main Ideas**

* “Carbon capture and storage projects at industries are ‘difficult to parse, highly technical and hugely consequential’” as stated by Victoria Bogdan Tejeda, staff attorney at the Center of Biological Diversity (Lopez, 2022)
* No later than July 1, 2023, the Natural Resources Agency The California Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA), the Department of Food and Agriculture, etc. will establish the *Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy* to make a blueprint of advancing state climate goals (SB 905)
* The bill would require…
  + Establishing a program that evaluates the efficacy, safety, and viability of carbon capture, utilization, amd storage (CCUS) technologies and carbon dioxide removal (CDR) technologies
  + A public database to track the implementation and usage of CCUS and CDR technologies throughout CA by January 1, 2025
  + After no less than 60 days before developing a carbon dioxide capture, removal, and sequestration project can the operator provide written notice of the project to each owner of a surface, subsurface, or storage reservoir estate that is next to a geologic storage reservoir
    - Operator needs to maintain financial responsibility and show proof to the state board that they can drill and extract
  + All projects must follow drilling guidelines, as well as follow environmental health and safety of parties involved/nearby
* Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program:
  + Will make sure it doesn’t negatively impact local air quality, public health, and low-income and disadvantaged communities (Section 2, Article 2, 39741.1 a3A)
  + Will prevent water pollution and transportation issues for local communities (Section 2, Article 2, 39741.1 a3B)
  + Will monitor pollutants and potential toxic air contaminants (Section 2, Article 2, 39741.1 a3C)
* With the program, the state board has to prioritize…
  + Reducing GG emissions
  + Minimizing land use, preventing any type of pollution, any potential health risks
  + Maximizing the workforce development and employment opportunities for the program
  + Reduce fossil fuel production
  + Prevent double counting of emissions reductions by using an approved third party verifier to track state progress
  + January 1, 2025 and every 2 years after → report to the Legislature on the progress

# SB 1020: Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022

* **Researcher:** Jessie
* **Focus on bill:** Eligible renewable energy resources and zero- carbon resources supply 90% of all retail sales of electricity to California consumers by 2035, 95% of all retail sales of electricity to California consumers by December 31, 2045, and 100% of electricity procured to serve all state agencies by December 31, 2035.

**Sources:**

* [California approves big climate change steps — but one ambitious one fails](https://calmatters.org/environment/2022/09/california-climate-change-legislature/)
* [Senate Bill 1020](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1020)
* [SB 1020 - TrackBill](https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-1020-clean-energy-jobs-and-affordability-act-of-2022/2226695/)

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### **Research/Main Ideas**

* Requires 100% of retail electricity to be fueled by renewables such as wind and solar by 2045
* All state agencies must source their energy from 100% renewable sources by 2035
* Question remains: Will California’s Electrical Grid handle the surge in energy demand?
* According to California Air Resources the state is expected to see a 68% increase energy consumption by 2045
* Authorizes the PUC and Energy Commission to reveal to the IOS confidential information regarding power purchase agreements with electric generation and energy storage projects for the purpose of transmission planning
* Requires the PUB, Energy Commission and state board, on or before December 1, 2023 and annually thereafter, to report local reliability and achieve compliance with all energy and capacity requirements set by the PUC.
* Stateboard will consult with all state agencies, including Public Utilities Commissions and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development in regards to sources of greenhouse emissions and its plan to involve energy related matters such as providing reliable and affordable electrical services, and Petroleum refining
* State board shall evaluate the total cost and the total economic and noneconomic benefit in reducing greenhouse gasses to California’s Economy, environment, and public health.
* State board will take account of the contribution of each source or source category to statewide greenhouse emissions and its potential effects on small business and recommend a minimum threshold of greenhouse emissions below emission requirements.
* State board shall conduct a series of public workshops for anyone who is interested in commenting on the plan.
  + Will be conducted in regions of the state where there is the most significant exposure to pollutants, such as communities with minority populations, communities with low income populations or both.
* Stateboard shall update its plan at least once every 5 years in order to achieve its maxim technologically feasible and cost - effective reductions of greenhouse gas emissions
* The commission, Energy Commission, State Air Resource Board, and other state agencies must do the following:
  + Maintain and protect the safety, reliable operation and balancing of the electrical system
  + Prevent undesirable impacts to electricity, gas, water customer rates and bills due to the implementation of the bill
  + Taking consideration the economic and environmental cost and benefits of renewable energy and zero-carbon resources.
* All California balancing authorities must report to the Legislature by January 1, 2021, and at least four years after. They must report on:
  + Technologies, forecasting and existing transmission, maintaining safety, environmental and public protection, affordability and system and local reliability
  + Evaluation on identifying possible benefits and impact on system and local reliability
  + Evaluating the nature of any possible financial costs and benefits to electric, gas, and water utilities, including customer rate impacts and benefits.