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Governor Newsom signs bill to speed power to the grid, cut energy costs

AB 2493 targets utility delays that are slowing clean energy grid connections

Sacramento, CA — American Clean Power-California commends Governor Gavin Newsom for signing legislation that would make it faster and cheaper to add new clean energy to the grid.

AB 2493, authored by Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee Chair Cottie Petrie-Norris, D-Irvine, and co-sponsored by ACP-CA and the Union of Concerned Scientists, holds California transmission owners — including the state's three large investor-owned utilities — accountable for completing equipment upgrades on time when clean energy projects are waiting to connect to the grid.

The bill addresses a widespread problem: Across California, 22 gigawatts of clean energy projects — enough to power more than 16 million homes — are waiting on delayed upgrades from Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison alone, according to the [California Public Utilities Commission](#). Some delays stretch for years, driving up costs and constraining the state's ability to meet rising energy demand.

[AB 2493](#) adds a new monitor at the CPUC to oversee progress on transmission upgrades, providing visibility into project status earlier in the development process and creating an independent watchdog to get clear answers when projects face delays. If transmission owners don't improve, the bill requires the CPUC to order fixes — which may include earlier equipment orders, expanding opportunities for third parties to complete the work, and fast-tracking upgrades that affect 100 MW or more of clean energy capacity.

“California has made great strides in planning for a grid powered by clean energy,” said **ACP-CA Executive Director Alex Jackson**. “Measures like AB 2493 are about the hard work of getting it built on time.

"For California to meet its clean energy and climate goals, we must urgently connect a massive amount of renewable energy resources to the grid,” said **Daniel Barad, UCS Associate Director, Western States Policy**. “AB 2493 will increase transparency on interconnection delays and allow the state to take the action necessary to bring clean energy online at the pace and scale its ambitious targets demand."

Measures like AB 2493 are needed to help California meet energy demand that the California Energy Commission projects will rise roughly 50% by 2045. The state’s SB 100 clean energy goals [call for](#) tripling California’s supply of clean power by the same year, requiring 6 to 7 gigawatts of new capacity annually for the next two decades. Transmission capacity will need to [more than double](#), requiring a streamlined approach to new infrastructure development.

The American Clean Power Association is the leading voice of today’s multi-tech clean energy industry, representing energy storage, wind, utility-scale solar, clean hydrogen, and transmission companies. ACP is committed to meeting America’s energy and national security goals and building our economy with fast-growing, low-cost, and reliable domestic power. Learn more at cleanpower.org.

The Union of Concerned Scientists puts rigorous, independent science to work to solve our planet’s most pressing problems. Joining with people across the country, we combine technical analysis and effective advocacy to create innovative, practical solutions for a healthy, safe and sustainable future. For more information, go to www.ucs.org.