



Jerry Brown Announces Appointments, Mum on Executive Secretary

On January 5, 2011 Gov. Jerry Brown this afternoon announced four more appointments to his new administration as well as seven appointments to the state Board of Education, though not his executive secretary. The administration appointments were largely as expected. Brown: Reappointed Mary Nichols chairwoman of the California Air Resources Board, a post she held when Brown was

governor before. Appointed former Assemblyman John Laird, a Santa Cruz Democrat, secretary of natural resources, a confirmation the environmental group Environment California praised over the weekend, despite Brown's unwillingness to confirm it. Also appointed is longtime adviser Marty Morgenstern secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

Ronald Yank has been appointed director of the Department of Personnel Administration.

The four are all Democrats, as is Brown.

To read the Press Release and to Read more: <http://blogs.sacbee.com/capitolalert/latest/#ixzz1ACj6xJFR>

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Laird receives appointment from Gov. Brown as Secretary for Natural Resources

Former Santa Cruz legislator John Laird on Wednesday was officially appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown California Secretary for Natural Resources, a post that oversees more than two dozen environmental agencies and commissions from state parks to water resources. Laird, 60, declined to discuss specific policy matters before convening with the new governor. But

he says he looks forward to bringing his record of environmental activism as a three-term assemblyman and two-term Santa Cruz mayor to the position.

"I'm incredibly honored to be selected and look forward to the hard work that comes with the job," said Laird, a Democrat. "I care about the future of parks and the future of

water and the future of fish and game protection and marine protection, and they're all right here." The Natural Resources post will put Laird at the center of such hot-button issues as water shortages in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, funding for state parks, fire management and coastal protection.

Round 3 Direct Access Enrollment Period

On Monday, January 31, 2011 at 9:00am Pacific Time the utilities will, once again, accept enrollment notices for direct access service beginning January, 2012. These notices are being accepted almost one year in advance of service commencement to allow customers to be informed of their acceptance to switch to direct access and work with Energy Service Providers on the best program for them. Over 70% of the allowable load has been accessible through the first and second enrollment rounds. This third round accesses another 20%, representing almost the full amount that was afforded to switch under the direct access cap.

BUDGET DEFICIT COULD MAKE GOV. BROWN'S 2011 CLIMATE TO-DO LIST DAUNTING

For California, indisputably the nation's leader on climate policies, 2011 is likely to be a year in which the state comfortably widens its lead. From auto emissions standards to the construction of solar and wind farms, California is expected to take major steps forward.

The first step will be decidedly backward, however. Soon after he is inaugurated, Gov. Jerry Brown is expected to solve the state's unprecedented \$25 billion budget deficit by

making deep, across-the-board spending cuts that include vital climate-related programs such as subsidies for mass transit. Still, the state's climate policy backers are hopeful.

"Jerry Brown has been visionary and consistent on this issue, especially renewables, since the 1970s, so we have high hopes," said Sen. Fran Pavley, a Santa Monica Democrat who spearheaded the state's strict auto emissions rules. She noted that the chair of the

powerful Air Resources Board, Mary Nichols, held the same post during Brown's previous time as governor, from 1978 to 1983, so California will experience in 2011 an unusual level of political continuity for climate and energy policies. Beyond the immediate budget bloodbath, the agenda for Brown and state legislators will be chock full.

To read this article in its entirety please go to:
<http://solveclimateneeds.com/>



CALIFORNIA – ENERGY STORAGE REQUIREMENT

The Commission has acted ahead of schedule in opening a rulemaking in response to the enactment of legislation - Assembly Bill (AB) 2514. As a reminder, this legislation directs the Commission to open a proceeding by March 1, 2012 to determine appropriate targets, if any, for each load-serving entity (LSE) to procure viable and cost-effective energy storage systems and, by October 1, 2013, to adopt an energy storage system procurement target, if determined to be appropriate, to be achieved by each LSE by December 31, 2015, and a second target to be achieved by each LSE by December 31, 2020.

The Commission states that they also opened this proceeding on their own motion to initiate policy for California utilities to consider the procurement of viable and cost-effective energy storage systems. Although the Legislature has given the Commission until March 1, 2012 to open this proceeding, the Commission has stated that they see the enactment of AB 2514 as an important opportunity for this Commission to continue its rational implementation of advanced sustainable energy technologies and the integration of intermittent resources in our electricity grid.

All load serving entities (LSEs), as defined in Pub. Util. Code § 380(j) are placed on notice that we may be subject to the decisions issued in this rulemaking, and this order instituting rulemaking shall be served upon us. Attachment B lists such entities as reflected in the Commission's records. As a result, we will engage in the regulatory process to ensure fair application of the rules that are developed in this proceeding. We will continue to keep you updated as this proceeding advances however it is important for us to understand that this is a development currently underway and begin to strategize on how we incorporate this future requirement into our procurement and pricing plans. This rulemaking is very much in its infancy and more detail and information will be forthcoming as it develops. In the meantime it is important for us to understand that this is in the forecast.