



AB 32 Implementation Group



Working Toward Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions
And Enhancing California's Competitiveness

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RATES WOULD INCREASE TO FUND NEW CLIMATE CHANGE INSTITUTE

SACRAMENTO - The multi-billion dollar price tag for California's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would increase by nearly \$1 billion more if the Legislature passes SB 1762 (Perata).

"The Air Resources Board is working on a balanced, cost-effective plan to reduce greenhouse gases," said Shelly Sullivan, executive director of the AB 32 Implementation Group. "But the ink is not even dry on their draft plan and the public is still providing comments. Now legislators want ratepayers to pay for a climate change institute at the University of California. It's not part of the plan."

SB 1762 would allocate \$870 million in ratepayer funds over ten years to climate change research. This is on top of a proposed \$4 billion a year carbon tax, \$500 million a year water tax and billions of additional higher costs for gasoline and electricity included in the California Air Resources Board's draft AB 32 scoping plan.

"Let's not put the cart before the horse," said Dorothy Rothrock, vice-president of the California Manufacturers and Technology Association. "This is a major proposal to add costs on ratepayers. It should be considered in the context of everything else we may do to meet AB 32 goals."

Recent polling by the AB 32 Implementation Group found that California voters support a balanced approach for implementing climate change, but that support plummets when they are told what the price tag of AB 32 is likely to be.

"California consumers and business are facing a very difficult economy, higher taxes, higher fuel costs and higher electricity costs," said Amisha Patel, policy analyst for the California Chamber of Commerce. Now is not the time to add new costs."

The AB 32 Implementation Group is a coalition of more than 160 organizations working to ensure a balanced approach for the state's climate change plan.