



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Forum Highlights Need for Coordination of Water and Energy Policies

*Panelists Include State and Local Water Experts, Respected Business Leader and Stanford Energy Researcher*

**Sacramento (August 20, 2014)** - State and local experts gathered today in Sacramento for a discussion about the intricate relationship between water policy, energy policy and economic growth in California. Crafting policies that balance California's carbon reduction goals with the state's water policy objectives and also ensure a reliable and affordable energy supply is increasingly complex. As attention focuses on developing new post-2020 plans there is increasing awareness that energy affordability, reliability and sustainability must be a top priority and that state policies need to be coordinated in a comprehensive framework.

Rob Lapsley, President of the California Business Roundtable, moderated the forum which included presentations from Jeremy Carl, Tim Haines and Douglas Headrick. Panelists discussed how increases in energy costs result in higher water costs impacting businesses, residents and farmers throughout the state. They also highlighted how better integrated policy-making is crucial in order to maintaining reliable and affordable energy supplies.

"The State Water Project has a large energy footprint as a significant consumer and producer of carbon free power," said Tim Haines, Deputy General Manager, Energy, State Water Contractors. "Historically, water and energy policies have been developed in silos which has unintended consequences for maintaining energy reliability, integrating renewable resources and producing clean power."

Douglas Headrick, General Manager of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District discussed the impact rising energy and water costs have on local communities. "San Bernardino is still struggling to recover from the economic downturn and rising energy rates coupled with higher water rates hits local businesses and residents hard, especially those in low-income and minority communities" said Headrick.

Jeremy Carl, Director of Research, Shultz-Stephenson Task Force on Energy Policy, Hoover Institution, Stanford University discussed findings from his [report](#) which calls for the development of a 2030 California electricity plan to integrate the state's electricity future with its climate, water, air quality and transportation goals. "We found that there is significant overlap between water and electricity issues, but agency cultures and methods have evolved separately within each regulatory and technology ecosystem," said Carl. "When looking at post-2020 planning there needs to be more coordination and cooperation to integrate disparate policies."

The Water-Energy Nexus forum was organized by [Californians for Affordable and Reliable Energy](#). CARE is a broad-based coalition supported by the California Business Roundtable, small businesses, community groups, local officials, local business organizations, statewide associations, and energy consumers that are calling on policy-makers to ensure that we have a responsible energy plan that protects our state's economy.

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