

# THE CARE COALITION WANTS TO KNOW...

## Will the Legislature allow state agencies to spend state funds planning, developing, and implementing post-2020 climate change programs without legislative authorization?

In a letter addressed to Senator Jean Fuller, the State of California Office of Legislative Counsel explained that AB 32 does not authorize the Governor or the ARB, without additional legislative authority, to mandate new, dramatically lower GHG emission targets beyond the AB 32 goal set for 2020.

**"It is our opinion that the act does not authorize the Governor or the ARB to establish a greenhouse gas emissions limit that is below the 1990 level and that would be applicable after 2020." – CA Legislative Counsel**

The Governor's 2016-17 State Budget, released in January, proposes to spend \$3.1 billion from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). The California Legislature now has the opportunity to review the authorization for the programs, the effectiveness of the GHG emission reduction programs, and the appropriate use of cap-and-trade proceeds to achieve future GHG emission reductions.

### CALIFORNIANS WANT ANSWERS

1. If the Governor and ARB do not have authority to extend AB 32 targets past 2020, should they set new, lower emissions goals beyond 2020 and count on Cap-and-Trade funds to pay for programs to reach those goals?
2. Are the current proceeds being spent in a cost effective manner, ensuring California consumers and businesses see real, near-term, direct GHG emissions reductions prior to 2020?
3. Should the state money be spent to support programs that will not deliver greenhouse gas reductions before the end of 2020?

As California policymakers move forward on the Governor's 2016-17 budget and the GGRF Expenditure Plan, including billions in spending of Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds, it is critical that the benefits and cost effectiveness of these programs are thoroughly reviewed and the legality of extracting billions of dollars from California taxpayers is authorized.

**The CARE Coalition includes 150+ members who support development of a state plan that will meet our environmental goals and ensure affordable and reliable energy**

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.



To learn more, visit [CAREaboutEnergy.org](http://CAREaboutEnergy.org) or email [info@CAREaboutEnergy.org](mailto:info@CAREaboutEnergy.org)