

California Environmental Protection Agency



Air Resources Board

Renewable Electricity Standard Environmental Impacts Analysis

**Public Workshop
December 14, 2009**

Environmental Impact Analysis

- **Analyze environmental, public health, and environmental justice impacts of the proposed RES**
- **Work with the energy agencies: CEC, CPUC, and CAISO, and stakeholders**
- **Evaluate air, land, water, biology, cultural, and visual impacts**
- **Meet the AB 32 requirements**



AB 32 Requirements

- **Section 38562:**
 - ✓ **Be equitable**
 - ✓ **Ensure activities do not disproportionately impact low-income communities**
 - ✓ **Complement and do not interfere with air quality or toxic emission standards**
 - ✓ **Consider overall societal benefits**



Additional AB 32 Requirements

- **Section 38570:**
 - ✓ **Consider direct, indirect, localized and cumulative emission impacts**
 - ✓ **Design market-based compliance mechanism to prevent emissions increase**
 - ✓ **Maximize environmental and economic benefits**



CEQA Equivalent Analysis

- Hire a contractor to assist with environmental analysis
- Determine environmental impacts by comparing compliance scenarios to 20% RPS scenario
- Determine environmental impacts by comparing compliance scenarios to 2010 renewable energy level



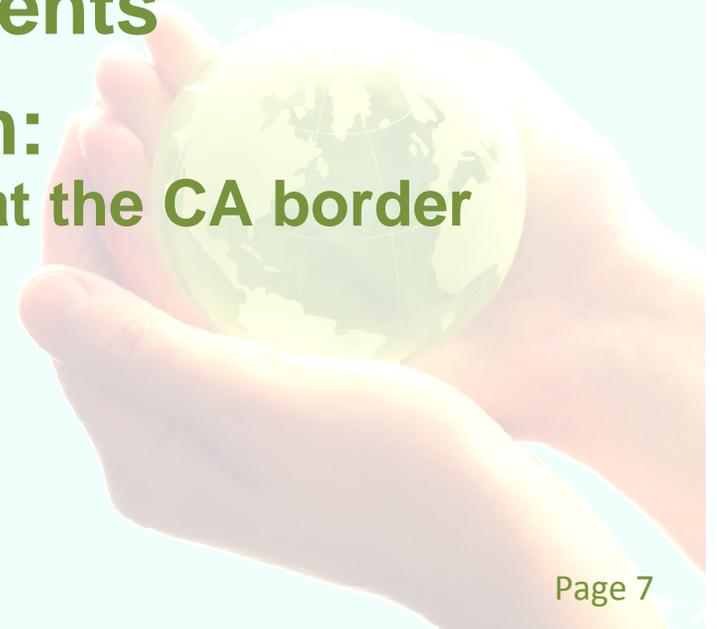
GHG Benefits

- Measured in MMTCO₂ equivalent in 2020
- Measure relative to the displaced fossil-based generation
- GHG attributes based on WECC-wide or resource average basis
- Use GHG Calculator by E3



California Air Quality Impacts

- **Use contractor's results and data from technical analysis to:**
 - ✓ Provide summary of compliance scenarios' impacts on criteria and toxic air pollutants
 - ✓ Perform regional and statewide analyses
- **Review environmental analyses from CEC, CDF&G, and local governments**
- **Account for emissions from:**
 - ✓ New generation facilities in or at the CA border
 - ✓ Fossil fuel generation
 - ✓ Distributed generation



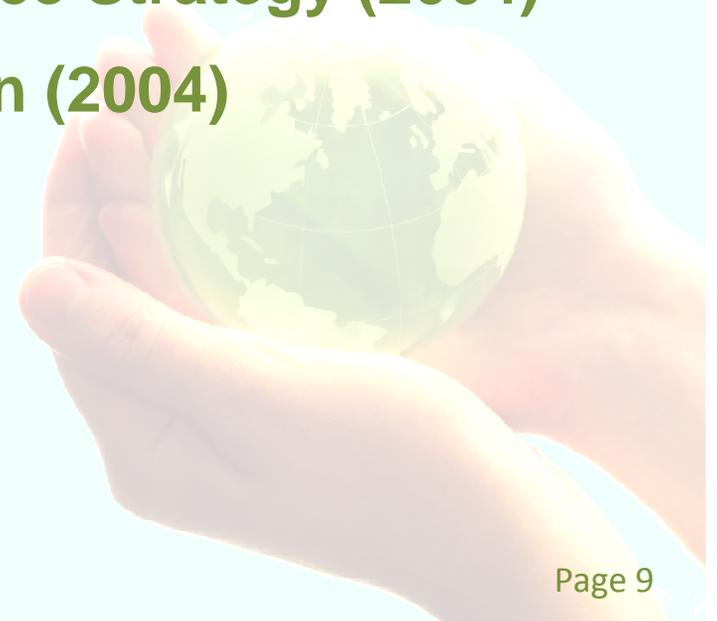
Public Health & Cumulative Emission Impacts

- **Summarize potential public health risks and overall criteria and toxic pollutant impacts**
- **Review available reports from energy agencies**
- **Work with contractor to:**
 - ✓ **Identify locations of renewable power generating facilities that may impact EJ communities**
 - ✓ **Summarize regional and statewide impacts**
 - ✓ **Conduct risk assessments (cancer and non-cancer) for individual and multiple projects**



Environmental Justice

- Evaluate compliance scenarios to ensure that public health risks do not adversely impact low-income or minority communities
- Use Cal-EPA Guidelines:
 - ✓ Intra-Agency Environmental Justice Strategy (2004)
 - ✓ Environmental Justice Action Plan (2004)



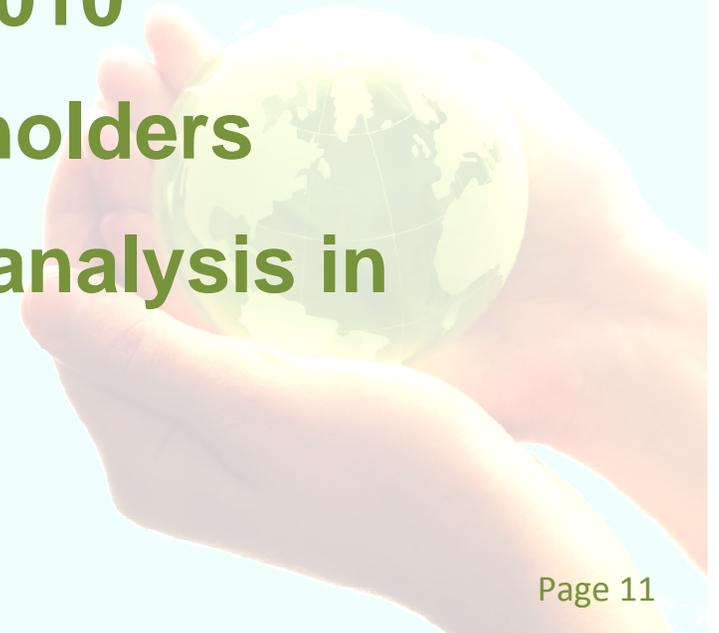
Other Environmental Impacts

- **Work with the contractor to evaluate non-air related impacts: land, water, biology, cultural, and visual**
- **Review RETI and other documents to identify impacts from transmission lines and possible mitigation measures**
- **Review Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan to conserve endangered species and natural communities**



Next Steps

- **Review comments on approach and continue development of environmental analysis**
- **Initiate contract for environmental analysis**
- **Prepare and release draft environmental analysis in the first quarter 2010**
- **Continue to meet with stakeholders**
- **Release final environmental analysis in June 2010**



Questions / Comments

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