

To whom it may concern,

I was able to attend and observe the California Senate Environmental Quality and Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2 combined hearing on Tuesday Feb 13, 2024. I find some of the findings and discussion by the IEMAC to be of utility and interest.

However, I must convey my concerns that the IEMAC is plagued by conflicts of interest and cannot be trusted as a truly independent source of information and evaluation of California climate policies. Too many members of the IEMAC have substantial political and career capital (which includes economic opportunity) invested in the promotion and protection of emissions trading programs, including but not limited to California cap-and-trade/WCI Inc.

The findings of the IEMAC are thus seriously skewed by these conflicts of interest, and as such the IEMAC is severely weakened in meeting the stated objectives of providing impartial assessment of the effectiveness of California's markets-based climate mechanisms.

At the very least the annual report of the IEMAC should have members list their conflicts of interest. The next step would be securing the resignation of the current members of the IEMAC with the greatest conflicts of interest, and for the governor's office, Cal EPA and the legislature to find truly independent experts to fulfill the membership responsibilities of the IEMAC.

Thank you for your inclusion of this feedback in the public record.

Many regards, Gary

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