CLEAN ENERGY & CLIMATE SECURITY: PRINCIPLES FOR ACTION

I am a California business owner/operator and I agree with the following statements:

Petroleum dependence and energy inefficiency hinder economic security. We must diversify our energy supplies and improve energy efficiency in order to protect the state’s economy from the volatility of gasoline price swings and the hidden costs of climate change. The state must continue building a clean energy economy that spurs innovation, drives exports and investments, fosters job creation, and sparks overall economic growth in our state and country. In addition, we must save energy to boost businesses’ bottom lines, put money in consumers’ pockets, and recycle more dollars into the California economy.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions means reducing overall waste, which enhances my business operations and boosts my bottom line. Increasing my business’s efficiency lowers my costs, allowing me to invest in improving the goods and services I offer and sell. My customers appreciate efforts to reduce waste and increase energy efficiency – greening my business distinguishes me from the competition.

When it comes to climate change, the most expensive thing we can do is nothing. If left unchecked, climate change will:

- Endanger California’s valuable real estate and public infrastructure due to extreme weather, drought, sea level rise, and wildfires.
- Jeopardize some of our most profitable industries including tourism, agriculture, and recreation.
- Reduce the Sierra Nevada snow pack, threatening water supplies, agriculture and tourism/recreation.
- Exacerbate public health costs as a result of rising temperatures.

California leadership on clean energy policies will place businesses at a competitive advantage. California’s efforts will serve as a model for regional and federal policies, and enable the state’s businesses to gain a competitive edge as the nation moves to a clean energy economy.

I support continued implementation of California’s clean energy policies, including AB 32, Low Carbon Fuel Standard, Advanced Clean Cars Program, and Renewable Portfolio Standard, as well as other energy efficiency and green building standards. These policies are driving positive economic growth in our state, while insulating our economy from the volatility of gasoline price swings and saving businesses hundreds of dollars annually on energy bills.