

Environment & Energy

California Climate Bills to Boost Energy Transition Advance (1)

By Zach Bright

Aug. 30, 2022, 3:41 PM; Updated: Aug. 30, 2022, 5:00 PM

California bills to bolster California's renewable energy goals and to limit carbon capture to efforts to achieve carbon neutrality passed in Assembly votes on Tuesday.

S.B. 1020 would require California to generate 90% of its electricity from renewables by 2035 and 100% by 2045. It's a key proposal Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) backed in a recent legislative push to combat climate change. Newsom has until Sept. 30 to sign the bill.

Another measure, S.B. 1314, would ban carbon capture technologies as a way to prolong fossil fuel use, only allowing its use as a tool to achieve statewide carbon neutrality.

"This is one of the pillars of the governor's climate package that he had specifically called for," Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D) said in support of S.B. 1314 before the vote. It passed 41-17.

It also would prohibit enhanced oil recovery, an extraction method to retrieve hard-to-access oil by injecting carbon dioxide and water into the ground.

Before heading to Newsom the bill will head back to the state Senate. It still needs a concurrence vote in the upper chamber, where it had advanced 24-9 in May.

(Updated with information on S.B. 1020.)

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