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The Interwest Energy Alliance, a 501(c)(6) non-profit trade association bringing together the leading renewable energy developers and manufacturers with the non-governmental environmental community to promote renewable energy throughout Nevada and the Intermountain West, supports S.B. 358 which will raise Nevada's renewable portfolio standard to 50% by 2030, so that Nevada can accomplish the clean energy policy goals long supported by its citizens -- to tap into its exceptional solar, wind and geothermal resources to generate electricity. S.B. 358 would help restore Nevada to its status as a leader in the clean energy sector, by joining the other states which have increased their minimum renewable energy requirements to 50 percent or higher: New Mexico, Oregon, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Washington D.C., Vermont and California. A strong renewable portfolio standard reflects the will of Nevada voters reflected in the passage of Question 6, and provides a predictable energy policy foundation promoting a cleaner environment for Nevada residents.

A stronger RPS will create thousands of good jobs, generate billions of dollars in economic activity, continue to diversify Nevada's economy, and attract innovation and investment. A strong renewable portfolio standard lowers costs, and provides stable, energy prices for residential, commercial and industrial electricity consumers, helping them to achieve their renewable energy goals and mandates. Removing fuel price volatility can enable businesses to plan over the longer term, reducing overhead costs, creating an attractive business environment in Nevada.

Renewable energy facilities are often located in rural areas and provide local governments, schools and agricultural regions with increased revenues and economic development opportunities. NV Energy's recent decision to acquire six new solar and battery storage purchase power agreements will stimulate over a billion dollars of capital investment around Nevada. Today there are more than 25,000 workers in the clean energy field in Nevada, and the state leads the nation in per capita solar energy production. By passage of S.B. 358, this economic progress will continue, by building a strong foundation supporting these business decisions into the next decade.