

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2012  
BARSTOW, CA**

**ITEM:** 11

**SUBJECT: RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS SOUTHERN LAHONTAN  
REGION**

**CHRONOLOGY:**

2002	California Senate Bill 1078 establishes California's Renewable Portfolio Standards.
2009	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – federal loan guarantee for renewable energy projects with permits in-place and “shovel ready” by December 31, 2010.
2011	California Senate Bill 2 requires energy providers to acquire at least 33 percent of their energy from renewable resources by 2020.

**DISCUSSION:** At Board Member request, Water Board staff will present information regarding permitting renewable energy projects in the Lahontan Region. Recent incentives have led to an increase in the number of new renewable energy projects statewide. Water Board staff will discuss the variety and of renewable energy projects including wind, photovoltaic, and thermal solar facilities, and the geographic distribution throughout the region. Other renewable energy projects undergoing Water Board regulatory review include geothermal, transmission line, and electrical substation facilities. Water Board staff will share the potential water quality and beneficial use impacts from these projects, the regulatory challenges and options used by Water Board staff and will encourage Board member discussion on staff presented options for addressing some of the challenges.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This is an informational item only. Water Board members may provide direction to staff.

**ENCLOSURES:** None.