Buy Clean: Climate-Friendly Procurement for California

Buy Clean California (AB 262) will instruct California officials to spend taxpayer dollars on infrastructure supplies in a way that is consistent with the state’s globally-recognized climate change goals.

The State of California spends more than $10 billion each year on infrastructure, and has nearly $100 billion in long-term infrastructure obligations. Infrastructure spending -- from road building to courthouse construction -- typically includes the cost of large quantities of steel, cement, asphalt and other materials. In many cases, the cleanest production facilities emit as little as half the carbon dioxide pollution as their dirtier counterparts.

California’s in-state industries are complying with the requirements of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB32) to reduce their emissions. But enterprises from other states and nations are typically not subjected to the same pollution reduction requirements, and often don’t use best practices.

With Buy Clean California (AB 262), California will put its infrastructure money where its mouth is. The bill requires the state to create rules for the procurement of infrastructure materials purchased with state funds, taking into account pollution levels during production and transport. Buy Clean will help level the playing field for companies in California and around the world that have invested to reduce the climate pollution of the materials they produce.

Labor Benefits:

Buy Clean supports companies and their workers that manufacture cleaner products, which comply with the state’s climate goals. It levels the playing field for companies in California and around the world that have invested in technologies and processes that reduce climate pollution while maintaining good, family-supporting manufacturing jobs.

Industry Benefits:

Buy Clean creates a market for low-carbon products that are used in public infrastructure. It shows that California is committed to supporting companies that comply with the state’s climate goals and produce clean, high-quality products. Finally, it sends a clear market signal that demand for clean manufactured products will increase as efforts to combat climate change grow.
Environmental/EJ Benefits:

Buy Clean extends California’s global influence on climate change into the supply chains that provide us with materials like steel, and uses the state’s purchasing power to support the cleanest producers. Manufacturers around the world are already investing in cleaner processes that reduce pollution while maintaining profits. Buy Clean makes sure California tax dollars are spent on those cleaner products, while encouraging manufacturers who haven’t invested in emissions controls to do so to stay competitive in the lucrative California market.

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*For more information, please visit [www.buycleancalifornia.org](http://www.buycleancalifornia.org)*