California ISO

FAST FACTS

SB 350 Study: EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES AND OTHER AIR POLLUTANTS

A regional energy market would reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants in California and throughout the West.

The study found that a regional grid would decrease California's greenhouse gas emissions by 4 to 6 million metric tons, or 8 to 10 percent of the total for the electric sector, in 2030. In the same year, the western region would see a reduction of 10 to 11 metric tons.

An expanded grid would also decrease emission of carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, sulfur dioxide and hazardous particulate matter in California and the West, including in disadvantaged communities.

A regional energy market would also reduce emissions of other toxic air contaminants in California referred to as "criteria air pollutants"—nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$).

CO_2 Emissions for California

REGIONALIZATION + CALIFORNIA-FOCUSED PROCUREMENT

50.4

million metric tons/year

REGIONALIZATION + WESTERN GRID PROCUREMENT

44.6

million metric tons/year

California Senate Bill 350, passed in 2015, directed the ISO to study the impacts of a regional western US grid. The study, conducted by leading experts, found that a western states energy market will yield significant environmental and economic benefits to California and the West, including cost savings to ratepayers, reduced air pollution, new jobs, market efficiencies and improved transmission planning.

Click here to go to the study