

# **Political Engagement and Contributions**

Sempra Energy and its business units consider engaging with policymakers to be an important, necessary and appropriate part of doing business. We track hundreds of proposed laws, rules, regulations and policies annually and engage at the federal, state, and local levels of government to ensure that the perspectives of our company, our shareholders, our customers, and our employees are represented before lawmakers and regulators. When warranted, we also take positions for or against proposals and sometimes suggest amendments as part of the public policy process.

We believe that public policy engagement is an important and appropriate role for companies, as long as it is conducted in a legal and transparent manner. In the U.S., there are federal, state and local lobbying registration and disclosure laws with which Sempra Energy and its business units comply, and the company has a robust training and reporting program in place to ensure compliance.

### **Governance and Decision-Making**

The Corporate Governance Committee of our Board of Directors reviews on an annual basis Sempra Energy's public policy priorities and political contributions, including lobbying expenditures associated with memberships. While our Board provides oversight, the most senior External Affairs officer is responsible for the activities, positions and daily decision-making consistent with this oversight.

Procedurally, corporate political spending plans and decisions are reviewed and approved by senior management. Individuals responsible for government affairs in each of Sempra Energy's business units work to prepare political contributions budgets for the local jurisdictions and states where the company has operations. Our employee political action committee spending plans and decisions are reviewed and approved by the Political Action Committee's Board of Directors and also receive political reporting and compliance clearance before checks are issued.

Sempra Energy has a department dedicated to all aspects of compliance with applicable political laws and reporting obligations. This department, with the assistance of legal counsel, informs and educates employees, analyzes legal compliance; monitors and communicates changes in laws, and collects disclosure information in a centralized database which is then used to prepare disclosure reports. The training and outreach program consists of the following:



- An online training course required for all external-facing employees, officers, attorneys and directors;
- In-person and/or webinar training regimen for all new hires and transfers;
- In-person and/or webinar training for groups identified as having the potential for interface with public officials; and
- A company intranet site dedicated to political reporting and compliance, which has information on lobbying, gifts, contributions and political fundraising.

Management oversight for corporate political activity and the Sempra Energy Employees' Political Action Committee resides with the highest-ranking external affairs executive of the company, Mr. Dennis Arriola, Executive Vice President, Corporate Strategy and External Affairs of Sempra Energy.

## **Corporate Political Contributions**

Sempra Energy makes corporate political contributions in the U.S. as permitted by law only from corporate shareholder funds. Political contributions are made to candidates, political parties, political action committees, and ballot measures in furtherance of public policies that support the company's business interests. Sempra does not use company funds to make contributions to federal Super PACs or to officeholder accounts. If this ever were to change, all expenditures will be disclosed semi-annually per our policy. Political contributions outside of the U.S. may be prohibited or regulated by local law, and must be reviewed and approved before any contributions are made. Our position on U.S. energy policy, climate change or other matters material to the company are detailed in the company's annual corporate responsibility report, where more detailed information is also provided on political involvement. The report is published annually and is available on our website, including archived reports from previous years.

Sempra Energy complies with all federal, state and local laws as well as reporting requirements governing corporate political contributions. Federal law, for example, forbids corporations from giving monetary or in-kind contributions to candidates for federal office. State and local laws dictate the conditions under which corporate political contributions may be made and disclosed.

Consistent with our commitment to ethical business conduct, political spending reflects Sempra Energy's interests and is not based on the personal interests of any of our individual officers, directors or employees. Furthermore, no contributions are given in anticipation of, in recognition of, or in return for, any official act.

#### **Employee Political Action Committee Contributions**



Sempra Energy's employees take an active role in the political environment through the Sempra Energy state and federal Employees Political Action Committees (collectively, SEEPAC). SEEPAC is a voluntary political action committee independent of any political party. It is designed to provide the employees of Sempra Energy and its affiliates an effective, convenient way to make financial contributions that can be used to support candidates and participate in the political process.

SEEPAC complies with all reporting requirements governing political action committee contributions. Employees are prohibited from making political contributions from personal funds, or through SEEPAC, and then seeking reimbursement from the company.

## **Trade Association & Business Memberships**

Sempra Energy holds memberships in industry, trade and business associations representing the energy industry and the business community. Engaging with other business and industry stakeholders helps us gain perspective and views on public policy issues that impact our company, our shareholders, our customers and our employees.

While we may not always agree with the positions taken by an association or its members, corporate memberships enable us to learn the views of others, obtain feedback, and ultimately, voice our concerns, perspectives and positions on proposed legislation and regulations in a more educated and thoughtful manner.

#### **Transparency and Disclosure**

Sempra Energy discloses all corporate political contributions, political committee contributions (PACs, political parties and other committee types, including 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(6) organizations), and employee-sponsored PAC contributions. Sempra also discloses payments to other tax-exempt organizations such as business or trade association memberships where the cost of the membership exceeds \$20,000 and the organizations reported to us that a portion of the fees were used for lobbying expenditures or contributions considered non-deductible under Section 162(e)(1)(B) of the IRS. We disclose total fees paid to these organizations as well as the amounts attributable to lobbying expense as reported to Sempra Energy by the associations themselves. Beginning in 2014, we began disclosing this information semi-annually.