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## **Bay Area Council Announces Opposition to Proposition 80**

**SAN FRANCISCO, November 1, 2005** – Today the Bay Area Council announced its opposition to Proposition 80 on the November 8, 2005 ballot election. Proposition 80, named the “Electric Service Providers. Regulation. Initiative Statute., ” would in effect re-regulate California’s energy marketplace.

The Bay Area Council’s Energy Committee adopted a formal recommendation to oppose the measure, an opinion shared by a large majority of surveyed Council members. Members and the Energy Committee thought that the measure would threaten electricity supply and reliability by creating regulatory uncertainty and by mandating an inflexible and untested regulatory framework. The final decision was made by the Bay Area Council’s governing 24-member Executive Committee.

“The legislature’s re-structuring of California’s energy industry in 1996 led directly to the energy crisis of 2000 and 2001 because it was too rigid, without safeguards or adaptability,” said Jim Wunderman, President & CEO of the Bay Area Council. “Proposition 80 would be even more restricting and we certainly can’t afford that mistake again.”

The Council joins a wide coalition of business, civic and renewable energy producers in its opposition.

Following extensive consultation with Bay Area Council committees, members, and stakeholders, the Bay Area Council has approved the following positions on November statewide ballot measures that relate to the Council’s agenda:

- Support Proposition 74 (teacher tenure)
- Support Proposition 75 (paycheck protection)
- Support Proposition 76 (“Live Within Our Means” state budget control)
- Oppose Proposition 79 (mandatory drug discount program)
- Oppose Proposition 80 (re-regulating California electricity market)

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### **Bay Area Council**

Founded in 1945, the Bay Area Council ([www.bayareacouncil.org](http://www.bayareacouncil.org)) develops and drives regional public policy initiatives and researches critical infrastructure issues. Led by CEOs, the Bay Area Council presents a strong, united voice for more than 275 of the largest employers throughout the Bay Area region in promoting economic prosperity and quality of life. Jim Wunderman has served as president and CEO of the Bay Area Council since April of 2004.