



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 25, 2015

Contact: Sage Welch, 415.453.0430

Prominent California Clergy Urge Pollution Cuts Beyond 2020
*Congregations around state join interfaith movement
calling for passage of Senate Bill 32*

Sacramento, Calif. – Over 100 clergy members from across the religious spectrum have joined close to 600 people of faith calling on state leaders to support SB 32, a bill before the California Assembly that builds on the pollution reduction gains made by California’s clean air laws. In a letter to be delivered to key Senate and Assembly leaders today, members of the state’s faith community reference the moral responsibility to act on climate change and the protection of vulnerable communities as they call on leaders to support enforceable limits on climate pollution. SB 32 requires slashing greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

“I was grateful to stand next to former Governor Schwarzenegger when he signed AB 32 into law, representing people of faith who are profoundly concerned about the climate crisis,” said the Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, president and founder of Interfaith Power & Light. “I’m now proud to support the continuation of this work to reduce pollution in California and protect our state’s most vulnerable communities. California’s leadership on climate change is especially important as our state faces critical drought and wild fires.”

Rev. Bingham was joined in signing the letter by influential faith leaders like the Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California, as well as bishops, rabbis, evangelical pastors, Buddhist and Catholic monks and nuns, seminary faculty and lay leaders from every part of the state. This show of interfaith unity on pollution reduction comes after calls from global religious leaders as diverse as Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu to the world’s faithful to take action on climate change and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The letter is being delivered to the Senate President pro Tem and Assembly Speaker in Sacramento later today.

About California Interfaith Power & Light

The mission of California Interfaith Power & Light is to be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. We are a network of 650 congregations statewide, and are an affiliate of the national Interfaith Power & Light campaign. To schedule an interview, please contact Program Director, The Rev. Will Scott, will@interfaithpower.org, or (415) 987-3029.

###