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The Climate Trust announces two new Board Members

Robin Smutny-Jones provides California energy policy insights; Stephen Hall provides legal expertise

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Climate Trust is pleased to announce two strategic additions to the Board of Directors: Robin Smutny-Jones, the Assistant Executive Director of the California Energy Commission, and Stephen Hall, a partner at law firm Stoel Rives LLP.

“Robin’s insights into California energy policy and Steve’s legal expertise particularly with renewable energy projects add invaluable new dimensions to the Board,” said Laura Beane, Board Chair and Market Structure Manager for Iberdrola Renewables.

Smutny-Jones is a public policy expert, with in-depth experience with energy and incentive issues. Prior to working for the California Energy Commission, she served as Director of State, Regulatory and Regional Affairs for the California Independent System Operator; Chief Consultant of the California Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee, and as a Senior Consultant for the California Assembly Banking, Finance and Bonded Indebtedness Committee.

Hall is a partner at Stoel Rives LLP and past chair of the firm's Renewable Energy Initiative. He specializes in assisting clients with the development and finance of energy and renewable energy projects, including the structuring of energy projects and the operating, power sales, and transmission contracts that such projects require. Steve is also a frequent speaker on the subjects of renewable energy finance and development, power purchase agreements, renewable energy credits and carbon offsets, and the integration of wind and solar resources.

The Climate Trust President Ben Vitale said the new Board additions are critical to the nonprofit organization’s plans. “All eyes are on California, and we want to support an effective and efficient system under California’s leading AB32 legislation,” Vitale said. “We believe AB32 can be cost-effective and can stimulate a robust clean economy while mitigating climate change. Robin’s and Steve’s expertise will help us hit the ground running in California.”

Hall said he was excited to join The Climate Trust, because the nonprofit organization is so well positioned to make a difference. “The Climate Trust makes many different climate-related policies across the region work effectively,” he said.

Smutny-Jones shared Hall’s optimism. “The Climate Trust is financing model projects and expanding support to companies that are taking mandatory and voluntary steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

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About The Climate Trust

The Climate Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with over 10 years of carbon market experience. Our mission is to provide expertise, financing, and inspiration to accelerate innovative climate solutions that endure. In order to arrest the rise in greenhouse gas emissions and to avoid the most dangerous impacts of climate change, The Climate Trust works to accelerate project implementation, develop financing solutions, and establish a supportive policy environment in the renewable energy, agriculture, forestry, energy efficiency and transportation sectors. For more information, please visit www.climatetrust.org.