



BlueGreen Alliance California Newsletter
February 2026

Hi everyone. This month BGA is bringing you updates from a new data resource our research team put together and some legislation that is sponsored by our partners. We are also excited to spotlight Assemblymember Rober Garcia as BGA CA's 2025 Legislative Champion!

BGA Federal Update

The BlueGreen Alliance created an [interactive resource](#) to show the real costs of recent U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) cuts, which terminated 345 awards, wiping out \$11.68 billion in federal clean energy investments. A longer list of awards is now rumored to be the target of future cuts. These sweeping cuts are a direct attack by the Trump administration to thwart a transition that's poised to create good jobs, revitalize communities, and advance climate progress.

This interactive resource shows the real costs of the DOE cuts. Drawing on data from [USAspending.gov](#), other public sources, and a leaked internal [document](#), this tool tracks all 648 awards canceled or at risk. It distinguishes between confirmed cancellations and the remaining awards categorized as at-risk. It provides details on funding amounts as well as the associated economic and community benefits at risk, allowing users to explore the full extent and potential impacts of the funding losses by state and congressional district. Access the research dashboard [here](#).

If you or anyone you know has been affected by these cuts, please reach out to Franki Gracey at fgracey@bluegreenalliance.org.

Legislative Update

Now that the deadline to introduce bills has passed, there are hundreds of bills to sort through. BGA has not taken any official positions, but we want to highlight a couple of bills that may be of importance for labor and environmental issues.

AB 2088 (Papan) This bill, sponsored by Industrious Labs, would authorize utilities in California to sell clean heat, opening opportunities to expand thermal energy networks (TENs) to decarbonize neighborhoods, campuses, hospitals, and eventually industrial facilities.

AB 2157 (Connolly and Bryan) Sponsored by BGA partner USW, eliminates the sunset date for the Displaced Oil and Gas Worker Fund (DOGWF) to allow the program to continue to provide support for workers past 2027. The bill also requires the EDD, in collaboration with the University of California, Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education, to develop a recommended design for turning the program from a pilot into a permanent program

AB 2516 (Petrie-Norris) This bill, sponsored by BGA partner the United Auto Workers (UAW), would create a state-run purchasing program for critical grid equipment. The state would aggregate all utilities' needs, bulk-purchase components, and support in-state manufacturing, which helping avoid supply chain delays that slow down connecting new power plants to the grid.

Spotlight: BGA CA Legislative Champion

BGA CA is excited to announce **Assemblymember Robert Garcia** as our 2025 legislative champion. Assemblymember Garcia has been a champion on labor and environmental issues and authored AB 1280 to open grant funding that will support projects for industrial facilities to decarbonize and includes requirements for union labor. This bill gained wide support from labor and environmental groups, including BGA and members of our coalition.

"Thank you to the California BlueGreen Alliance coalition for selecting me as their 2025 Legislative Champion," **said Assemblymember Robert Garcia**. "I was proud to author AB 1280 to modernize California's manufacturing sector, which garnered widespread support from environmental groups and labor unions. This bill creates the opportunity for California to lead in industrial decarbonization to meet our climate goals while creating good jobs along the way."

This legislation is an early step along the way to decarbonizing California's manufacturing sector. This bill is a great example of what a true blue green collaboration can look like since programs will be required to meet strong labor standards and priorities projects in areas that experience the worst effects of pollution from industrial facilities.

"Governor Newsom's signature on AB 1280 is a major win for working families," said **Vince Sugrue, State Legislative Director for Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 104**. "This bill helps ensure that California continues to invest in high-road, middle-class careers while accelerating our state's clean energy transition. By putting skilled labor at the center of the solution, we're building a cleaner, fairer future that uplifts workers and communities alike."

The BGA coalition looks forward to continuing our collaboration with Assemblymember Garcia in the future and to continuing work in the industrial decarbonization space.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, please let us know:

fgracey@bluegreenalliance.org

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The BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) unifies labor unions and environmental organizations into a powerful force working for an economy that fights climate change, protects the health of people and the environment, stands against economic and racial inequality, and creates and maintains good-paying, union jobs in communities across the country.

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