



## Newspapers throughout California Oppose Proposition 16

*Newspaper editorial boards throughout California have denounced Prop 16 as a special interest initiative that will benefit no one but PG&E.*

To understand what's wrong with California's initiative process, all you need to do is look at Proposition 16 on the June 8 ballot. This outrageous measure is funded by more than \$25 million from PG&E, and its sole purpose is to protect PG&E profits. Voters must say no.

— **San Jose Mercury News: March 12, 2010**

The PG&E ballot measure (Proposition 16) is another example of the initiative process going awry in California, of a powerful special interest seizing the initiative process for its own narrow benefit.

The measure the utility is bankrolling is not a simple statute. It is a constitutional amendment. If it passes, it enshrines unfair protections against competition for PG&E into the California Constitution.

— **Fresno Bee: January 20, 2010**

Don't miss the opportunity to send PG&E an unequivocal message by ignoring the barrage of misleading advertising and voting no on Proposition 16. The constitution of the state of California should not be for sale.

— **Long Beach Press-Telegram: March 22, 2010**

Voters should not be fooled into thinking Prop. 16 is anything about improving the democratic process.

It is entirely about PG&E's financial interests and would do considerable harm to local governments' ability to create and expand publicly owned utilities for the benefit of electricity customers.

— **Oakland Tribune: March, 12, 2010**

Voters should reject Proposition 16 on June 8. It is a brazen attempt by PG&E to protect its business interests and thwart the spirit of a state law.

— **Marin Independent Journal: March 23, 2010**

It is unusual for The Bee to come out against a ballot measure before the campaign has really started. The PG&E initiative deserves special attention. It's that bad.

— **Sacramento Bee: January 19, 2010**

No, the point isn't to protect taxpayers' rights. It's to protect the profits of a monopoly utility - both from ambitious clean-power schemes in San Francisco and from modest annexations in Redding. This is one measure (Proposition 16) where voters will need to look past the catchy slogan and see who really stands to benefit.

— **Redding Record Searchlight: January 16, 2010**