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Comments on Agenda Item No 9 on 6-22-2026 Regular Business Meeting

Please find the attached letter related to agenda item no. 9 on the 6-22-2026 regular business meeting agenda.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



June 18, 2026

Chair Hochschild and
Members of the Commission
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Business Meeting Agenda Item No. 9 - Support

Dear Chair Hochschild and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of Industrious Labs and Earthjustice, we submit this letter of support for continued investments to clean up industrial equipment. The transition of industrial equipment to cleaner, more efficient technologies provides large benefits in tackling harmful climate pollution. It also has the potential to help address our intractable air quality challenges in several parts of California. We are pleased that the Commission is considering awarding DC Energy Services LLC dba Imperion to advance critical decarbonization technologies at a dairy product manufacturer in the City of Industry. The South Coast Air Basin has the worst air quality in the country. As such, projects like this are critical to catalyzing efforts that help alleviate criteria pollutants, modernize manufacturing, and keep critical jobs in California.

California's industrial sector is the second-largest source of climate-warming emissions and a major contributor to the state's air quality crisis, releasing significant amounts of criteria air pollutants. However, there is growing momentum to electrify low- to medium temperature industrial heat processes that heavily rely on fossil-fuel-fired boilers. As the state with the most industrial boilers and the largest manufacturing base in the country, California has significant underutilized electrification potential.¹ Over 1.2 million workers producing the everyday goods we love and depend on, such as coffee, medicines, bread, paper, and glass, have helped make the state's economy the fourth largest in the

¹ CARTO Builder, "National Map of Industrial Boilers," 2020 Emissions Data, <https://clausa.app.carto.com/map/07d7be74-69f7-4a7f-9cd7-bb92a84b5db3?lat=33.928538&lng=-117.095029&zoom=4>.

world.² There is growing interest in electrifying process heat to maintain the state's competitiveness while meeting climate and air quality commitments.

As a leading region in food processing, the South Coast is an ideal location for these projects. We are excited to see the first project in the South Coast that will combine an industrial ammonia heat pump, pasteurizer heat recovery systems, and thermal energy storage. We also look forward to monitoring the progress of this important project and hope the Commission continues investing in additional projects in the nation's smog capital.

Sincerely,

Teresa Cheng
Industrious Labs

Adrian Martinez
Earthjustice

CC: Michael Cacciotti, Chair, South Coast AQMD
Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, South Coast AQMD

² Governor Gavin Newsom, "California is now the 4th largest economy in the world," April 23, 2025, <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/04/23/california-is-now-the-4th-largest-economy-in-the-world/>.