

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Jane Israel
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**Highland Electric Fleets Comment on 2026-2027 Investment Plan
Update for the Clean Transportation Program**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

July 08, 2026

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 26-ALT-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Submitted online via:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=26-ALT-01>

RE: Highland Electric Fleets Comment on 2026-2027 Investment Plan Update for the Clean Transportation Program

Dear Commissioners and staff of the California Energy Commission,

Highland Electric Fleets thanks Commissioner Skinner, the Advisory Committee, and Energy Commission staff for their dedicated work in developing this year's Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan.

Highland greatly appreciates the Commission's continued commitment to supporting medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) charging infrastructure, recognizing the urgent need to transition the most polluting vehicles to ZEVs in support of California's clean transportation, air quality, equity, and climate goals.

We applaud the proposed Investment Plan modification to include school bus infrastructure and public fleets as a focus for MHD infrastructure investments. Replacing polluting diesel school buses with zero-emission models is a high-impact strategy to reduce children's exposure to harmful tailpipe emissions. As schools, especially in underserved communities, face budget challenges, enrollment declines, and continued uncertainty around federal school bus funding, state incentives are essential to helping districts overcome these barriers to zero-emission school bus adoption and take advantage of the long-term financial and environmental benefits.

Highland also appreciates Commissioner Skinner's remarks during the June 30 Advisory Committee meeting recognizing the opportunity for Clean Transportation Program investments to support permanent ZEV charging infrastructure in the Los Angeles region that can advance clean transportation at the LA28 Games and provide lasting benefits for the region.

As underscored by the L.A. County Legislative Delegation, state leadership and investment to support the buildout of LA-area zero-emission charging infrastructure now will enable these sites to be energized in time for the Games, and ensure that needed infrastructure is in place for planned fleet conversions in the near future – platforming California's clean transportation leadership on the world's stage and improving air quality in communities suffering from some of the nation's worst air pollution.

Highland is grateful for the Commission's commitment to advancing MHD vehicle electrification, and recognition of the impactful role of school bus electrification for communities and the state as a whole. We look forward to continued engagement on Clean Transportation Program implementation strategies to maximize the impact of these investments and support California's progress toward self-sustaining ZEV markets.

Sincerely,

Jane Israel
Senior Manager, Market Development
Highland Electric Fleets