August 14, 2014

Mr. Tav Commins
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Tav.Commins@energy.ca.gov

RE: CALCTP Lighting Control Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Application

Dear Mr. Commins:

I am writing about California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP)’s application to be approved by the California Energy Commission as a Lighting Control Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider.

I have attended the initial proceeding describing the need statewide for acceptance testing of nonresidential control systems. I have support the Commission’s efforts to develop a certification program to ensure that acceptance tests are performed by experienced, trained and qualified HVAC and lighting trade professionals. I have observed failed commissioning and lack of energy performance on systems on a number of HVAC and lighting projects as an independent small business guiding building owners on energy efficiency strategies nationwide.

I urge the Commission to continue to hold the certification providers to the highest standards of performance feasible as described in Title 24 Part 6 and companion Compliance Manual.

The marketplace ‘s awareness of acceptance testing requirement is high in my humble opinion due to the tremendous public outreach by your staff and the utilities. Consequently, it is expecting certification bodies to be ready and able to train and certify experienced and qualified individuals from one man to large firms as soon as possible.

I support the CALCTP application as a Lighting Control Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider for the following reasons:

1. CALCTP has in depth experience in training and certifying professionals who are or quickly become committed to the successful implementation of lighting control projects. Its requirement of three years of project experience with advanced lighting control systems is justified and should be a minimum requirement expected of all certified AT Technicians statewide.
2. CALCTP continues to update its training program and curriculum as the lighting control technologies evolve and demands continuing updates of technical knowledge.

3. CALCTP’s rigorous standards of excellence require dedication and a high level of commitment on the part of trade professionals and their employers going through the training program and certification. In addition, a necessary agreement to abide by a code of ethics is included in the certification process proposed by CALCTP organization.

4. The lighting control innovations are changing the electric industry at a faster pace than ever before with the convergence of sensor, communication, computing, control and electrical technologies requiring an in depth knowledge of lighting systems. A solid foundation of installer knowledge is necessary for lighting control projects to meet the needs of the new lighting market. Any training and certification body approved by the Commission must have in place a process for incorporating technological changes as they occur and deploy such knowledge through an annual re-certification.

In summary, given the vital importance of lighting control requirements in Title 24 2013, I urge the Commission to approve CALCTP as well as any other certification providers who abide by your high standards of performance and have included in their certification process the advancement of technologies that will drive our State to achieve zero net energy by 2030 in the non residential market sector.

I would like to thank you in advance for your time.

Yours truly,

Lee Stevens

President
Kingport Corporation
P.O. Box 5475
Santa Barbara, CA 93150
e-mail: kingportco@gmail.com
Tel: 805 448-4200