December 13, 2013


To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC), and the 14 certified local conservation corps we represent, I am writing to comment on the Proposition 39: California Clean Energy Jobs Act- 2013 Program Implementation Draft Guidelines (guidelines). We would like to follow up on our previous comment letter, dated October 23, 2013.

CALCC is an association of 14 certified local (or community) conservation corps across the state that work with young men and women to preserve and protect the environment while providing job skills training and educational opportunities to our members. The mission of each certified local conservation corps is to provide job skills training, energy efficiency and conservation work, education and community service to underserved young women and men.

The California Clean Energy Jobs Act (Proposition 39) explicitly references Certified Community Conservation Corps as eligible recipients of job training and workforce development funding. This type of funding would allow Certified Community Conservation Corps, among others, to train and employ disadvantaged youth on energy efficiency and clean energy projects. The local conservation corps were also explicitly included in SB 73, the implementing legislation for Proposition 39. Therefore, including the local conservation corps in the guidelines would reinforce the will of the voters, who passed Proposition 39, and the will of the Legislature, which passed SB 73.

We would like to thank the Energy Commission for developing these guidelines and allowing the opportunity for the public to comment on this document. We believe that will a few changes, the guidelines can be modified to more accurately reflect the intent of the voters and the Legislature that local conservation corps contribute to the implementation of Proposition 39. We respectfully request that the Commission consider the following changes:

- On page 11 of the guidelines, under the Leveraging Award Funding section, include “certified local conservation corps” after California Conservation Corps. The revised sentence would read:
  - California Conservation Corps and certified local conservation corps, “no-cost” and “low-cost” energy efficiency data collection and energy efficiency surveys.
• On page 31 of the guidelines, under the California Workforce Investment Board Grant Program section, include “certified local conservation corps” after California Conservation Corps. The revised sentence would read:
  o Regional partnerships, resource and program alignment among local Workforce Investment Boards, employers, organized labor, K-12, community colleges, California Conservation Corps, certified local conservation corps, and community-based stakeholders.

• On page 53 of the guidelines, under the Exhibit H: Definitions section, include a definition of the certified local conservation corps. The following definition could be used:
  o Certified local conservation corps— as defined by Public Resources Code section 14507.5, are individual, local organizations that work to develop young women and men, primarily ages 18-25, through a program of energy and conservation work, education and community service.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on these guidelines and are happy to answer any questions related to the local conservation corps and their ability to assist in the implementation of Proposition 39.

Sincerely,

Marilee Eckert
President
California Association of Local Conservation Corps

Cc: Marcia Smith, California Energy Commission