



April 6, 2015

**VIA EMAIL – DOCKET 14-ALT-01**

The Honorable Janea Scott, Lead Commissioner  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**

**14-ALT-01**

**TN # 75592**

**APR 07 2015**

**Re: Support for 2015-2016 Investment Plan Update for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (ARFVTP)**

Dear Commissioner Scott,

On behalf of Zero Motorcycles, Inc. we wish to express our support of the key goals of the 2015-2016 Investment Plan Update for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (ARFVTP). Our company has received two previous grants under the program and has recently been awarded a third grant to continue to expand our California based manufacturing of electric motorcycles. Leveraging Energy Commission funding with private capital, Zero Motorcycles has been able to hire more people, sustain growth, and achieve even more innovation.

Zero Motorcycles is a rapidly growing electric vehicle business that designs and manufactures award-winning, high performance, zero emission electric motorcycles. Zero has created 115 green jobs in California and has shipped over 5,000 of these extremely fun and environmentally friendly electric motorcycles during the last seven years. In addition to being an electric vehicle manufacturer which designs and builds our vehicles right here in California, our customers and dealers across the world have also directly benefited from our “Crafted in California” strategy. As the leading manufacturer of electric motorcycles, we see the vital need for the ARFVTP to continue to assist California companies.

Specifically with respect to ARFVTP Manufacturing funding, we support the concept of combining elements of vehicle technology demonstration and facility retooling to allow leverage for development of new product lines, as long as the relative merits of each technology platform are taken into account. One challenge we see with the proposed revision to the current Investment Plan is how to reflect the scale of GHG reductions. In the recent



Advanced Vehicle Technology Manufacturing solicitation (PON 14-604), small vehicles such as electric motorcycles were compared directly with Medium and Heavy Duty vehicles in terms of GHG reductions, which led to the unfavorable comparison of deployments of tens of trucks vs 1000s of e-motorcycles. This is much like comparing apples to oranges as both these technologies are critical for California's future.

In order to meet our overall GHG and petroleum reduction goals, the Energy Commission needs to make sure it supports a broad portfolio of vehicle technologies which all work to transform transportation. Early deployments of thousands of electric motorcycles have had a significant impact on beginning the transformation an entire industry. The largest manufacturers of motorcycles, including Harley Davidson, BMW, Honda, Yamaha, and Polaris are now making investments in electric motorcycles. And the benefits from switching from ICE to electric motorcycles extend far beyond just GHG reductions to include as much as a 10x reduction in criteria pollutants. Consumers and public safety departments across California are already seeing these benefits every day.

Both medium and heavy duty vehicles and electric motorcycles have critical roles and should not have to compete with each other for funding in this overall transformation. As the Energy Commission considers future funding opportunities and allocations, we suggest that the future market impact and size, along with GHG and petroleum reductions be considered or that the solicitations be segmented by vehicle class for fairness.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our comments and your continuing your support of this very important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jay Friedland'.

Jay Friedland  
Vice President, Government Relations  
Zero Motorcycles, Inc.

cc: Charles Smith , Energy Commission Emerging Fuels and Technologies Office