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July 8, 2013

Mr. John Heiser
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street (MS-40)
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Dear Mr. Heiser,

On behalf of the Kern County Economic Development Corporation, I am pleased to provide this letter of support to Hydrogen Energy California's (HECA) project in Kern County, California.

Kern EDC represents a coalition of business and government leaders dedicated to ensuring a diverse and strong economic climate for Kern County. Kern EDC provides comprehensive business development assistance to companies considering the County for corporate relocation or expansion.

The \$4 billion HECA project is a major initiative that will lay the groundwork for a larger low carbon industry serving the needs of California consumers. HECA will produce hydrogen rich fuel gas and carbon dioxide from a variety of feedstocks, ranging from petroleum coke, coal and potentially biomass.

The HECA project represents the cornerstone of a new industry of decarbonized energy production plants in central California while reducing greenhouse emissions well below current levels. The HECA project will be a major step forward to making the California Climate Change Plan (CCP) successful in reaching its goals of reducing greenhouse emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. It will safely store over two million tons of carbon dioxide in central California oilfields while enhancing domestic oil production. We are especially pleased that HECA will produce over 2,000 construction jobs and 200 permanent jobs, the kind of "green collar" and high-value jobs needed to bring about fundamental changes in our energy sector and the region's economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Chapman