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California Conference of Carpenters

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September 15, 2013

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the California Conference of Carpenters I am writing in support of the Hydrogen Energy California project (HECA) in Kern, California.

As construction workers we are pleased that the HECA project will be designed, constructed and operated to meet or exceed the highest local, state and federal environmental, safety and health standards to protect its workers and the public. The project will provide over 2,000 jobs during construction and several hundred full time jobs after completion.

The HECA plant will create clean hydrogen by recycling petroleum coke and combining it with coal. This process produces lower air emissions than any other conventional power plant of its size, including natural gas. This state of the art technology will capture and permanently store 90% of the carbon dioxide it produces which will be used for enhanced recovery from nearby oil fields. Over three million tons of greenhouse gas, the equivalent of removing 650,000 automobiles from the road per year will be prevented from atmospheric release. The plant will also provide over one million tons of low carbon fertilizer per year for the surrounding agricultural industry.

Projects that provide a clean source of baseline energy, like the HECA project, are becoming increasingly important as California leads the nation in the evolution to reliance on renewable energy resources. We urge your support for this project and hope your administration will do everything possible to bring this project on line.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Curtin
Director

cc: Douglas J. McCarron, General President, UBC&JA
Karen Douglas, Commissioner, CA Energy Commission
Fong Wan, Senior Vice-President, Energy Procurement, PG&E