

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	2019-2020 Investment Plan Update for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program
<b>TN #:</b>	229269
<b>Document Title:</b>	Ballard Power Systems Comments - MD, HD ZEV New Platform funding
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*Comment Received From: Tim Sasseen*  
*Submitted On: 8/7/2019*  
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**MD, HD ZEV New Platform funding**

See attached comments

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*



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BY EMAIL

To: The Honorable Commissioner Patricia Monahan, California Energy Commission  
From: Tim Sasseen, Ballard Power Systems  
Date: August 6th, 2019  
Re: Docket# 18-ALT-01, CTP 2019-2020 Investment – MD, HD ZEV New Platform funding

Dear Commissioner Monahan,

Ballard Power Systems would like to thank the California Energy Commission for its continued visionary support of zero-emissions heavy duty vehicle technology through the ARFVTP, now the Clean Transportation Program. The proposed 2019/2020 Proposed Investment Plan allocations are well considered, and Ballard supports the categorical funding allocations presented at the August 5th Working Group meeting.

We would like to further recommend that project solicitations for the **\$30M project funding for the Medium and Heavy Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles and Infrastructure be structured to support development activities needed for new zero-emissions vehicle platforms.** By providing grant funding for development of new zero-emissions bus and truck models, the CEC can help “jump-start” new product development cycles and accelerate penetration of zero-emissions vehicles into the California market, while stimulating healthy competition and multiple supplier options that a mature market will require.

Vehicle OEM’s are often hesitant to invest in new ZEV platforms when demand has not been fully established. The development costs for creating a new vehicle platform can be difficult for an OEM to recover from a new offering in a young market. At the same time, potential customers such as transit agencies and fleet owners are reluctant or not able to commit to new ZEV vehicles without the assurance and detail of a commercial offering.

Investment by the CEC into new ZEV platform developments for buses and trucks will accelerate the expansion of zero emissions technology needed to achieve California’s zero-emissions, carbon neutral goals. Thank you for your consideration of this suggestion.

Sincerely,

Tim Sasseen  
Business Development Manager, California  
Ballard Power Systems