

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Block Grant for Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive Projects
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*Comment Received From: Alliance for Regional Solutions*  
*Submitted On: 9/4/2019*  
*Docket Number: 17-EVI-01*

**Testimony on definition of communities of concern for San Diego Region  
EVCP**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

**Executive Committee**

**Members**

- Greg Anglea**  
*Interfaith Community Services*
- Dana Bristol Smith**  
*Leap to Success*
- James Callaghan**  
*Mental Health Systems*
- Scott Gross**  
*Cal State University San Marcos*
- Margery Pierce**  
*City of Oceanside*
- Ahni Rocha-Redmond**  
*YMCA Youth and Family Services*
- Nannette Stamm**  
*Vista Community Clinic*
- Don Stump**  
*North County Lifeline*
- Christy Wilson**  
*Rancho Santa Fe Foundation*
- Karen Youei**  
*City of Escondido*



**Alliance for  
Regional Solutions**

*Connecting North County*

August 27, 2019

California Energy Commission  
Attn: Brian Fauble  
Docket Unit, MS-4  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Re: Docket No. 17-EVI-01  
Testimony on definition of “communities of concern” for the San Diego region EVCP

Dear Energy Commission & Staff:

**The Alliance MISSION:**

The Mission for the Alliance for Regional Solutions is to bring Stakeholders to coordinate and advocate for innovative, real solutions to existing and emerging community needs.

**The Alliance VISION:**

The Alliance for Regional Solutions is a recognized leader in building community commitment and investment to create a safe, thriving, and resilient North County for all.

**The Alliance VALUES:**

- Trust
- Commitment
- Responsive
- Integrity
- Collaboration
- Results-driven
- Inclusive
- Compassionate
- Resourceful

**The Alliance ROLES:**

- Convener
- Advocate
- Facilitator
- Connector
- Trusted Resource
- Educator

The Alliance for Regional Solutions ([www.regionalsolutions.net](http://www.regionalsolutions.net)) is a long-standing collaborative of nonprofit service agencies and governments of North San Diego County, including over 65 nonprofit organizations, eight North County cities (Carlsbad, Oceanside, Poway, San Marcos, Vista, Escondido, Encinitas, and Solana Beach), and the County. Our member organizations are diverse, with educational entities, healthcare providers, social service agencies, government agencies, and philanthropic bodies; we work with almost every community of concern, including low income, minority, disabled, seniors, those with limited English proficiency, and other under-represented groups. We serve thousands of individuals and families dependent on this network of support.

The Alliance is serving as one of the community based organizations (CBOs) contracted by SANDAG to assist with outreach and input for the renewal of the regional transportation plan (RTP). CBO representatives meet monthly, including formal sessions of a Working Group. At the August 1, 2019 Working Group session, a presentation was provided about the proposed Regional Electric Vehicle Charging program. This program will be invaluable in expanding charging stations for electric plug in vehicles in our region, a significant step toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Importantly, it is proposed that a minimum 25% of funds for the rebate incentives under this program be set aside for EV stations in “communities of concern.” We applaud and support this proposal. At

the August 1 session it was described that differing definitions of what constitutes a “community of concern” may be applied, with key consequences for the underserved throughout the region, including North County:

*The EVCP plans to establish a “communities of concern” definition and commit at least 25 percent of total program funds to installations in these communities. SANDAG/APCD propose that the definition include both disadvantaged communities (DACs) pursuant to Senate Bill 535 (De León, 2012) (SB 535) and low-income communities pursuant to Assembly Bill 1550 (Gomez, 2016) (AB 1550).*

The attached SANDAG map exhibit accompanied this presentation. Note that if the definition were to be limited to only SB 535 "disadvantaged communities," **substantial communities of underserved in the San Diego region would be excluded from the set-aside, including vast portions of North County**, the communities that The Alliance for Regional Solutions is established to serve. Put plainly, without including AB 1550 low income, there will be no “communities of concern” under this EVCP project in North County and several other deserving areas in the San Diego region. To illustrate the need, please also see the attached map showing persons in poverty throughout the San Diego region - the darker the color, the more persons in poverty. Communities in North County including Camp Pendleton rival those near downtown San Diego for persons in poverty. **We strongly recommend that low-income communities pursuant to Assembly Bill 1550 (Gomez, 2016) (AB 1550) be included in the defined geographic areas to be served by this program’s set-aside.**

We appreciate the ability to bring this need to your attention. Please keep The Alliance for Regional Solutions informed of this decision, and progress toward establishing the Regional Electric Vehicle Charging program.

Sincerely,



Greg Anglea  
President, Alliance for Regional Solutions

cc

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**Extent of Persons in Poverty – San Diego Region (number of persons in poverty by Census block group. Source: North County Food Policy Council GIS, a project of The Alliance for Regional Solutions)**

