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Recommend the CEC to require EVITP certification on all wholly and partially subsidized charging infrastructure construction

Environmental justice is a high priority for me and those I work with. In the L.A. area and many parts of our state and nation, those who have the least are often subjected to the most – the most pollution, the most toxics, and often, the most negative byproducts of the global freight transportation system.

The Moving Forward Network is a national network of over 55 member organizations that centers grassroots, frontline-community knowledge, expertise and engagement from communities across the US that bear the negative impacts of the global freight transportation system.

When looking at the question of EV infrastructure training we see an opportunity, through the EVITP program, to make progress in a number of areas. Both in improving environmental health and advancing a just transition.

Electric work and electric vehicles of all kinds will improve the environment for disadvantaged communities. Making sure EV infrastructure is installed and operate safely, through an EVITP requirement, increases commercial and public acceptance and support for these positive changes. Fires, accidents and unreliable charging stations do the opposite and slow down their growth.

Additionally, those who have the least, often live, work, and shop in the oldest and least maintained facilities with the oldest and least maintained electrical systems. When charging stations and other EV infrastructure is installed in those buildings it is most critical that EVITP certified electricians perform the work so it will be safe and reliable.

Outstanding training programs are a critical piece of a just transition; a just transition is critical to reaching climate justice all core to the Moving Forward Network's mission. We urge the CEC to require EVITP certification on all wholly and partially subsidized charging infrastructure construction so everyone will benefit, and we will get that much closer to environmental justice.