

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	20-RENEW-01
Project Title:	School Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program
TN #:	236685
Document Title:	Juan Barroso Comments - Comments on AB841 Draft Guidelines
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Juan Barroso
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	2/5/2021 4:49:53 PM
Docketed Date:	2/5/2021

Comment Received From: Juan Barroso
Submitted On: 2/5/2021
Docket Number: 20-RENEW-01

Comments on AB841 Draft Guidelines

First: CEC is proposing that initial program awards (2021 funding cycle) be limited to assessments, adjustments and maintenance of HVAC systems. This does not address the need for many schools to upgrade or replace outdated equipment and systems, which will be required to provide code-compliant ventilation and a safe environment in classrooms. This need is immediate and should not be deferred to the 2022 funding cycle as proposed by CEC. Students and teachers returning to school in the coming weeks and months could be at risk should 2021 funding be limited as proposed by CEC. The 2021 funding cycle must include upgrades and replacement of systems, if recommended by engineers, as intended by AB841.

Second: CEC is proposing the initial funding cycle (2021) be limited to schools in disadvantaged communities. Disadvantaged schools indeed have greater need, and AB841 stipulates that these schools be given the opportunity to apply for funding before other schools. However, all schools are faced with an immediate health and safety risk because of widespread ventilation problems in classrooms as students and teachers return to school amid the COVID pandemic. All schools must be allowed to participate in the 2021 funding round; this can be accomplished if disadvantaged schools are allowed to apply for and receive funding thirty days before other schools.