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Comment Received From: Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee
Submitted On: 3/18/2022
Docket Number: 19-TRAN-02

MSRC Comment Letter on 19-TRAN-02 MD'HD Allocation

Additional submitted attachment is included below.
March 18, 2022

Submitted via email
docket@energy.ca.gov

Fuels and Transportation Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 19-TRAN-02 MD/HD Allocation – Partnership Opportunity for the CEC with the MSRC

Dear Energy Commissioners:

On behalf of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC), we would like to thank the California Energy Commission for the opportunity to comment on this workshop. We believe the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicles Allocation in the Clean Transportation Program provides the perfect opportunity for the CEC and the MSRC to partner together to maximize investments in clean transportation projects.

The MSRC’s sole mission is to provide Clean Transportation Funding to projects that reduce air pollution from motor vehicles within the South Coast Air District in Southern California. The MSRC’s funding is instrumental in implementing the South Coast Air Quality Management Plan, which states that the most effective way to reduce air pollution and meet our attainment goals is to reduce emissions from mobile sources.

For our FYs 2021-24 Work Program, we have approximately $40 million to invest in diesel emission reduction projects for heavy-duty vehicles and infrastructure. Our last three-year work program is resulting in the deployment of nearly 550 zero- and near-zero trucks (with more to come) and supporting infrastructure targeting emissions from the goods movement sector in Southern California. These clean-fueled vehicles will reduce annual tons of NOx and particulate matter by an estimated 93 tons, so the MSRC’s investments will result in significant air pollution reduction benefits to the South Coast region.

The Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicles Allocation presents the ideal connection to leverage the CEC’s funds with MSRC funds to significantly increase the investment in medium- and heavy-duty infrastructure. In particular, the CEC and MSRC could partner on the following project concepts identified at the workshop:
• Hydrogen refueling
• Truck parking EV charging and hydrogen refueling
• Warehouse and regional trucking
• Innovative EV charging and hydrogen refueling technologies
• Large scale ultra-fast charging stations
• MD/HD blueprints

Since the MSRC’s sole purpose is to allocate Clean Transportation Funding, we are the perfect agency to work with the CEC to reduce the challenges associated with deploying state funding, minimizing the administrative burden on the Energy Commission. Moreover, the MSRC can provide matching funding so there is instant leveraging of the CEC’s funding. As a trusted partner with both the CEC and the California Air Resources Board (CARB), our pooled funding could be leveraged even further because we can require entities to provide their own matching funds for these projects.

The MSRC welcomes being a partner with you, and we bring everything to the table you need to be successful in deploying this funding: a track record more than 30 years of success, additional funding resources, and a history of working together collaboratively. Please reach out to Ray Gorski, the MSRC’s Technical Advisor at (909) 396-2479 or ray@cleantransportationfunding.org, to discuss these opportunities further.

We look forward to discussing the opportunity to work together on deploying the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicles Allocation funding, as well as on other projects in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Larry McCallon
Chair, MSRC and Mayor, City of Highland