

DOCKETED

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Request for Residential SGIP Equity Advanced Rebate Program

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



RE: Request for Residential SGIP Equity Advanced Rebate Program

The Energy Coalition (TEC), Grid Alternatives, and Swell Energy, with support from the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA), is requesting to expand the existing Advanced Rebate Program for the Self Generation Incentive Program's (SGIP) Residential Equity budget, similar to the California Energy Commission's (CEC) existing pilot supporting the implementation of the Equity and Resiliency Budget (ERB). The expansion of this new program will accelerate California's distributed energy resource (DER) adoption in historically underserved communities by providing an upfront capital gap-funding to overcome the main barrier for income-qualifying residents.

The Bassett Avocado Heights Advanced Energy Community ([BAAEC](#) project (CEC contract #EPC-19-006)) awarded by the CEC, and additional statewide projects developed by Swell Energy and Grid Alternatives, need a sustainable model to lead an equitable transition to a clean and renewable energy economy. The GSFA gap financing is a critical step towards scalable solutions.

The Golden State Finance Authority's revolving loan fund mechanism has proven successful for the ERB projects. GSFA funds are awarded to shovel-ready projects, and the SGIP incentive is then returned back to the fund managers to support additional projects. This success is demonstrated by GSFA and Swell Energy's existing ERB partnership. To date, GSFA's ARP Program has been able to leverage \$2.5M to support over \$11.5M in financing, assisting over 400 households.

Utilizing the Disadvantaged Community Single Family Solar Homes ([DAC-SASH](#)) program administered by our project partner Grid Alternatives, we're able to provide free solar systems to the residents. Similarly, our partnerships are supporting a free battery storage program, utilizing SGIP funds. Allowing the GSFA financing mechanism could prove valuable to extend battery storage adoption to this income qualifying target audience. GSFA will meet this need by accelerating the SGIP payment and therefore unlock and derisk private capital to allow these projects to be realized.

Combined, these projects will consist of an estimated 135 to 150 homes and would need an estimated total of \$3,360,720 allocated from the revolving fund to support the bridging of the rebate payments.

We thank the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group's time and consideration for this matter.