

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	22-ERDD-02
Project Title:	Climate Innovation Program
TN #:	247849
Document Title:	Center for Transportation and the Environment Comments - Continued Need for Demonstration Funding
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Center for Transportation and the Environment
Submitter Role:	Applicant Consultant
Submission Date:	11/30/2022 6:01:16 PM
Docketed Date:	12/1/2022

*Comment Received From: Center for Transportation and the Environment
Submitted On: 11/30/2022
Docket Number: 22-ERDD-02*

Continued Need for Demonstration Funding

It's crucial that the Climate Innovation Program considers funding demonstration projects for early-stage technologies, particularly in zero-emission transportation and especially in slow to decarbonize sectors around ports and airports, where few zero-emission options exist. CTE firmly believes demonstration projects serve to bridge what's commonly referred to as "the valley of death" for new technologies.

Demonstration

projects, and funding for them, take emerging technology from labs, universities, inventors, component developers, and other applications to commercialization of useful products and services. This is the area within the product development cycle that is difficult to fund out of pocket, can't yet be funded by the market, and is too early for investors, yet we know is critical to achieving commercialization.

There is always a disconnect in where stakeholders think new technology exists along the commercial readiness curve. Demonstrations are an effective method to reveal the true state of the technology, level set expectations, and accelerate the path to market viability. CTE has successfully shown the importance of funding demonstrations through our work in the transit vehicle markets, bringing zero-emission technologies to scale first through demonstration projects paving the way for commercialization.