

## DOCKETED

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**On Alternative HVAC Cost Effectiveness Methodology for Small Economically Disadvantaged Districts**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*



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May 12, 2016

The Honorable Andrew McAlister  
Commissioner State of California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Alternative HVAC Cost Effectiveness Methodology for Small Economically Disadvantaged Districts

Dear Commissioner McAlister,

I am writing as the superintendent of McSwain Elementary School District and as the Treasure/Executive Board member of the Small School Districts' Association. McSwain is a small district in Merced County. We have applied for and received Proposition 39 funds to support California's renewable energy development and conservation goals. Our small agricultural farming community is one of the districts being negatively impacted by our new school funding formula. We are a very small district of 825 students in the California Central Valley located in Merced County. We are approximately 12% English Language Learners, 34% free and reduced lunch and our overall unduplicated percentage is below the lowest threshold at less than 40%. We are not a basic aid school district and based on our student demographics we are not eligible for supplemental funding formula supplemental funds.

As we and many small districts attempt to complete our Proposition 39 project we are facing a number of obstacles that primarily impact small school districts in the efforts to complete our Proposition 39 projects. As small districts, many who are experiencing declining enrollment, we do next have the required district funds that small districts must incur in order to complete the Proposition 39 requirements. We are writing to request that the Commission consider the following alternative HVAC Effectiveness Methodology for Small or Economically Disadvantaged Districts:

***"Alternative HVAC Cost Effectiveness Methodology for Small or Economically Disadvantaged Districts"***

*Small or economically disadvantaged districts who need to replace old HVAC systems with new higher efficiency equipment, shall be allowed to qualify these measures for Proposition 39 funding by demonstrating that replacement of these systems will result in costs savings of at least 5%. "Small" to be defined as Districts with an ADA of 1,000 or less. "Economically disadvantaged" to be defined as districts either having a Title I population (i.e., Free and Reduced Lunch Program eligible population) of 50% or greater, or, districts who's County Office of Education Certification financial status is either "qualified" or "negative".*

Thank you for your consideration and your efforts to support the energy needs of the State of California.

Sincerely,

Dr. Helio Brasil  
Superintendent McSwain School District  
Small School Districts' Association Treasure/Executive Board Member

cc: *Commissioner David Hochschild*  
*Staff Member Patrick Saxton*  
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