

DOCKETED

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**Plug In America comments on Draft Staff Report CTP Investment
Plan Update 2024-2025**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



June 19, 2024

California Energy Commission
715 P St, Sacramento, CA 95814
Docket #: 24-TRAN-02

Re: Draft Staff Report Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan Update 2024-2025

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the draft staff report of the Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan Update for 2024-2025.

Plug In America is a nonprofit organization with a mission to accelerate the transition to affordable and accessible plug-in vehicles and charging through education, advocacy, and research. We represent electric vehicle (EV) drivers across the country and leverage their real-world insights to achieve seamless, accessible, and reliable EV user experiences.

We conduct regular surveys of EV drivers to better understand and improve the EV experience. While it is clear from our recent surveys that EV drivers enjoy the benefits of EVs and intend to continue driving electric vehicles, access to charging and battery range remain some of the largest concerns for prospective EV drivers. To enable current and future EV drivers as California's market continues to grow, we recommend the CEC focus funding on EV charging infrastructure through the Clean Transportation Program (CTP).

Within the light-duty vehicle sector, we further recommend that the CEC focus on low-cost Level 1 and Level 2 charging options, particularly for multi-family housing residents. Currently, multi-family housing (MFH) residents often lack access to the convenience, cost savings, and reliability of the home-based charging common at single-family homes. Our goal with MFH charging is to reflect the convenience, reliability, and low cost of charging at single-family homes. Additionally, we support the requirement in AB 126 that 50% of funding must benefit disadvantaged communities in California and encourage the CEC to implement strategies that go beyond the 50% threshold.

Plug In America also encourages the CEC to focus on the most cost-effective clean transportation technologies for the light-duty sector that will help California achieve its statewide zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) and climate goals. As noted in the draft staff report, CEC has invested \$584.23 million in EV charging infrastructure resulting in 33,310 chargers, and \$256.87 million in light-duty hydrogen fueling infrastructure resulting in just 96 public fueling stations. We strongly encourage the CEC to prioritize EV charging support so that each public dollar spent is effective and efficient.

Additionally, Plug In America supports the calls from several other organizations to continue funding prioritization for medium- and heavy-duty (MDHD) infrastructure to maximize air quality

improvements. Prioritizing investments in the buildout of MDHD infrastructure, especially when targeted in low-income and disadvantaged communities, can significantly improve air quality and public health in historically overburdened communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback and for your consideration of these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact Alexia Melendez Martineau, Senior Policy Manager, Plug In America at amartineau@pluginamerica.org with any questions or for further discussion.

Sincerely,

Joel Levin
Executive Director, Plug In America