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Clean Transportation Technologies and Solutions

www.calstart.org

June 21, 2024

SUBJECT: COMMENTS RE: Clean Transportation Program

On behalf of CALSTART, I would like to thank the California Energy Commission (CEC) for the opportunity to provide comments on the 2024-2025 Investment Plan Update for Clean Transportation Program Staff Report.

CALSTART advances the clean transportation market in key industry sectors, providing services in technology development and demonstration, assessment and validation, and market acceleration, as well as advancing policies that support industry growth. CALSTART has grown from a concept for change to a coalition for action as the industry has evolved. The organization and its member companies eliminate obstacles to deploying cutting-edge transportation technology- from pioneering market strategies to industry collaboration to public policies that reshape the transportation landscape, CALSTART's efforts have steadily advanced the adoption of clean transportation technology.

CALSTART is fortunate to work in partnership with the state of California in implementing incentive projects designed to accelerate the marketplace of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and ease consumers and fleets with their transition. With over 12 years in practice, CALSTART has firsthand experience in incentive program design, industry and community engagement, technical assistance, and implementation models necessary for successful adoption of ZEVs and infrastructure.

As ZEVs become a larger proportion of the State's on-road fleet, sustained investments in infrastructure for both light-duty (LD) and medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) vehicles is necessary to ensure a seamless transition of the transportation sector. California has several regulations which will put an increasing number of ZEVs on the road, including Advanced Clean Cars II, Advanced Clean Fleets, and Advanced Clean Trucks. Infrastructure build-out is foundational to the success of both California's regulations and the 2045 carbon neutrality goal.

CALSTART believes that the proposed funding split in the staff report strikes the right balance between LD and MHD investments. California is in a pivotal place in the market and sustained investments are necessary in order to ensure we are on track to achieve our electrification, climate, and air quality goals, especially for the MHD market which is still in its nascency.

Thank you,

Nicole Hutchinson State Policy Director CALSTART