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June 18, 2024

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 24-ALT-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: 24-ALT-01 and Advisory Committee Meeting / CEC ZEV Workforce Training Workshop

On behalf of the San Francisco Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, I write to express our concerns regarding the California Energy Commission's proposed EV Charging Infrastructure Industry Workforce Assessment. Specifically, we want to emphasize the importance of electrical construction and installation, as well as electrical service and maintenance of charging infrastructure, being performed by California state certified electricians.

It is surprising to learn that the CEC is engaged in electrical workforce training and funding issues when an existing state agency - the Department of Industrial Relations is responsible for this oversight. And when the electrical contracting industry has exceptional training, more than enough electricians, and exceeds DEI goals.

DEI is a priority and the electrical contracting industry is a leader that has surpassed DEI goals up and down the state of California. The organized electrical apprenticeship programs in California cities – which are the largest in the state – exceed 50% BIPOC and women. Their DEI numbers are greater than the local population percentages. The Electrical Training Institute of Southern California - the largest in the nation with close to 2,000 electrical apprentices - is 81% BIPOC and women – only 10% white males. The electrical industry apprenticeship programs are not planning to accomplish DEI objectives, they are leading the state in already accomplishing them.

Electrical work related to charging infrastructure is potentially hazardous and must

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be carried out by well-trained and highly skilled electrical professionals. In order to become a state certified general electrician in California, an individual must complete a minimum of 8,000 hours of On-the-Job training to gain electrical construction experience, as regulated by the California Department of Industrial Relations.

We urge the CEC to recognize that electrical work on charging infrastructure should be performed by certified electricians to ensure the safety and quality of the installations. This will not only protect the integrity of the infrastructure but also safeguard the well-being of the workers involved.

Sincerely,



Pete Chursin
SFJATC Training Director