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IBEW ORANGE COUNTY

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Neal H. Lauzon
Business Manager

Sent via email: docket@energy.ca.gov

July 9, 2024

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 20-ALT-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: 20-ALT-01 and CTP Workforce

On behalf of IBEW 441 and our 2,300+ union electricians and power professionals, I write to express our concerns regarding the California Energy Commission's proposed EV Charging Infrastructure Industry Workforce Assessment. While we applaud the CEC's interest in training and infrastructure, we feel confident in the education and training of our CA state-certified electricians, including the existing oversight provided by the Department of Industrial Relations, and believe there are more lucrative ways to spend our public funds to further strengthen a clean energy agenda.

The electrical work related to charging infrastructure is potentially hazardous and as such, must be carried out by well-trained and highly skilled electrical professionals. The California Department of Industrial Relations mandates an individual must have at least 8,000 hours of electrical construction experience to become a CA state-certified general electrician. The DIR also oversees the electrical contracting industry's state-approved apprentice training programs, perpetuating the influx of capable, certified electricians, who currently have access to the country's most comprehensive EVITP training. We find it surprising the CEC is proposing involvement in the very same matters the Department of Industrial Relations is so successfully overseeing.

We believe the limited public funds could be better allocated to other clean transportation needs. The organized electrical contracting industry has a proven track record of providing high-quality training and career pathways for individuals interested in pursuing a rewarding and successful career in the electrical industry. We encourage the CEC to consider partnering with existing programs and organizations that have already demonstrated their effectiveness in training and developing this critical workforce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neal H. Lauzon".

Neal H. Lauzon
Business Manager

:jc
OPEIU #537/AFL-CIO, CLC