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To Whom It May Concern,

Here are a few thoughts and comments regarding the potential solicitation for Solar Water Heating Development. Some may not fall into the purview of the CEC and are longer term. My assumption is that this and any follow-on programs are targeting the development of a healthy Solar Thermal industry that can have real impact on reducing GHGs and the creation of a diverse and growing workforce.

Potential Areas of Interest

New thermal storage solutions with lower cost and/or higher performance

Low cost solutions for the localized distribution of heat

Solar Thermal systems, components or concepts with lower hardware or installation costs and/or higher performance.

Solar Thermal systems or components that generate added value (i.e. water heaters that can load shift or provide ancillary grid services)

Solar Thermal systems, components, or concepts that supplement, complement or enhance the performance of other systems like air and ground sourced heat pumps and HVAC.

Solar Thermal Microgrids or micro district heating demonstrations integrating Solar Thermal, storage, heat pumps, etc.

Scoring/Incentives

Additional points or other incentives for crossing certain projected cost thresholds or other metrics of significance.

Reduced or no matching funds especially for R&D or early stage demonstrations.

Marketplace Support

Support or assistance in reaching out to potential demonstration sites. Perhaps w support of IOUs?

General customer education.

Follow-on Funding Programs

Programs similar to BRIDGE and RAMP Solar Thermal Workforce Development and Training Solar Thermal market development tools (GIS natural gas consumption maps overlayed with nature of building stock and master vs. sub metering???) Alternative business model development

I hope this is helpful.

Regards, Mark

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