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Subject:	20-EPIC-01   EPIC Interim Investment Plan   Requesting proportional allocation of funds for fundamental vehicle grid integration research
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## January 18, 2021

California Energy Commission Electric Program Investment Charge Program 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject:Docket number 20-EPIC-01 "EPIC Interim Investment Plan"Comment for Staff Workshop on Electric Program Investment Charge Interim<br/>Investment Plan 2021-2022 held on January 6, 2021

Dear EPIC-Committee,

During the Staff Workshop on January 6, 2021, the CEC outlined three research themes in alignment with key state policy priorities. We fully agree with the research themes. However, it is unclear if key VGI enabling research has been given due consideration in the interim investment plan. At the event, we made a specific appeal to CEC and the EPIC committee: For the interim investment plan, proportional emphasis be given to pursue fundamental research for vehicle grid integration (VGI). When holistically constructed, V2G and V2B, as VGI, is the holy grail of distributed infrastructure for the grid and electric transportation. It significantly advances Decarbonization, Resilience & Reliability, and Entrepreneurship – the three interim research themes. However, without clear evidence of viability of this magnitude of VGI innovation, standards committees tasked to make room for progressive innovations promulgate old standards repackaged with incremental adjustments. In many cases, those adjustments are regressive. Accordingly, the significant opportunity presented by VGI merits a proportional response through EPIC's funding programs.

Imagine our future with ubiquitous rolling energy storage on the distribution network locally and accessibly. Conceivably, EVs can be powered anywhere, anytime. They can deliver power everywhere, anytime. Being able to do so seamlessly is a fundamental gamechanger. The grid will inherently deliver Resiliency, Reliability and Safety from its present condition of continuous fragility. Irrespective of one's zip code or social status rolling storage delivers energy equity for all on a transformed renewables grid. If done holistically, Transportation Electrification will expand exponentially without being a burden on the grid as it is today. VGI enabled rolling storage becomes the infrastructure of the future. Grid Decarbonization and Decentralization becomes inevitable and accomplished exponentially. It will further accelerate Building Decarbonization as the desire to live within one's energy capacity will drive innovation for end-use energy efficiency gains enabling a new

breed of Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. And a clean, renewed grid that comes rolling to an agricultural pump on a field or an industrial facility demanding more power also drives Industrial and Agricultural Innovation. Accordingly, VGI contributes substantially to all research themes that the CEC-EPIC has funded in the past and potentially intends to do so for the future.

The broader audience and stakeholders agree we need this VGI future to achieve California's emissions targets. It's also important to note the potential of EVs as grid assets for rapid scalability, lowered cost, energy access and equity for rate and taxpayers.

We request that due to its colossal significance, VGI merits a proportional funding allocation in EPIC's interim investment plan. Any setback in enabling and demonstrating the full potential of VGI will delay the adoption of the necessary standards by many years making it almost impossible to meet California's 2030 objectives of true VGI deployment per the Senate Bill 676.

Respectfully submitted by:

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