

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles and Infrastructure
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<b>Document Title:</b>	CharIN Comments - on Interoperability Testing Events RFP Concept
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Via Email

February 2, 2021

State of California  
California Energy Commission  
docket@energy.ca.gov

**Re: Interoperability Testing Events RFP Concept  
Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles and Infrastructure  
Docket Number: 19-TRAN-02; TN #: 236290**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Charging Interface Initiative e.V. (CharIN) is pleased to submit this letter in response to the request for comments issued by the California Energy Commission (CEC) through the Draft Solicitation Concept document released on January 13, 2021 (the DSC Document).

As the leading global association with over 200 member companies dedicated to developing and establishing a global standard for charging battery powered electric vehicles, CharIN shares CEC's goal as articulated in the DSC Document that "the industry must continue moving towards interoperability, where vehicles, chargers, and software systems work together, without special knowledge or effort by the user."

**CharIN's Proposal to CEC:**

Considering CEC's goals and CharIN's unique experience in the electric charging space, we would like to propose an alternative and extended approach to CEC, as follows:

- We would propose that CharIN and CEC establish a joint initiative focused on achieving all the goals outlined by CEC in the DSC Document. Such a close engagement could leverage the combined expertise, resources, and industry reach of both CEC and CharIN to maximize and expedite the results.

- CharIN would engage with CEC through CharIN's United States (US) organization, CharIN NA, which is a non-profit industry alliance dedicated to carrying the mission of CharIN e.V. in the United States and Canada. CharIN NA is uniquely positioned to work with CEC on this initiative given its broad industry reach among both US and global leading companies.
- CharIN has supported and conducted about 20 Interop Test (so called "Testivals") events globally for the past five years. Through both Testivals and other industry initiatives, CharIN has demonstrated a unique ability in the electric charging space to leverage contributions from CharIN members of facilities, personnel, know how, and other resources to maximize the value of interop testing to various participants from different industries. CharIN is uniquely positioned to foster the adoption of standards-based interoperable electric vehicles (EVs) and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSEs) both in the US and globally.
- By combining resources, we are confident that CEC and CharIN can jointly optimize spending on the testing-infrastructure and required personnel. At the same time, CEC and CharIN can together drive an increase in investment in the events, expand the education of relevant industry and governmental stakeholders and achieve exponential returns. This will benefit all participants by increasing testing opportunities, learning, wider industry collaboration and advancement in product development.

#### **About CharIN:**

CharIN is a unique industry association whose members include leading US and global companies. CharIN is comprised of multiple experts across a variety of industries who have worked together as a team to drive standardization of charging for electric vehicles. Any company can join CharIN. CharIN is a non-profit organization.

CharIN has a broad membership base with multiple stakeholders representing every link of the value chain in the electric charging space, from component suppliers to leading automotive manufacturers. Due to its broad membership base, CharIN is able to engage all required technical experts at a scale impossible in private corporate settings.

**Conclusion:**

Through a close engagement between CharIN and CEC, funds from CEC could be combined with the unique resources, expertise, know-how and reach of CharIN and of CharIN's members to create a unique and highly effective industry and governmental initiative to accelerate the deployment of interoperable infrastructure for electric vehicle charging.

We look forward to discussing this initiative and other opportunities for close cooperation between CEC and CharIN.

Sincerely,

On behalf of:

**Barton Sidles (Hubject, CharIN NA Board Member)**

**Cliff Fietzek (Electrify America, CharIN NA Board Member)**

**Jacob Mathews (Ford, CharIN NA Board Member)**

**Mohamad Abdul-Hak (Mercedes – Benz NA, CharIN NA Board Member)**

**Oleg Logvinov (IoTecha, CharIN NA Board Member)**

**Claas Bracklo (CharIN e.V. Chairman)**

**Michael Keller (CharIN e.V. Treasurer)**