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CHBC Comments on Clean Energy Alternatives to Diesel Backup Generator Systems Workshop

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

California Energy Commission (CEC) Docket Unit, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 19-ERDD-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

CHBC Comments on Clean Energy Alternatives to Diesel Backup Generator Systems Workshop

The California Hydrogen Business Council (CHBC)ⁱ appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments on the CEC's workshop on January 21, 2021.

The CHBC believes diesel generation should not be the default technology to supply backup power for outages in 2021 and that the state ought to prioritize accelerating expanded deployment of clean power generation technologies, in particular hydrogen fuel cells, which are far cleaner, safer, and commercially available today.

The CHBC strongly supports prioritizing fuel cells as the preferred technology and especially encourages the enablement of hydrogen fuel cell technology due to its many environmental and public health attributes.

It is particularly important to recognize and mitigate the impact of diesel emissions on disadvantaged communities and supports prioritizing zero-emissions alternatives like hydrogen fuel cells to avoid diesel emissions and improve local air quality.

Hydrogen fuel cells provide an energy resilient solution without pollution, such as utilizing vehicle-to-grid with zero-emissions vehicles as an electricity reliability and renewables integration strategy.

Therefore, we propose the following research topics for your consideration:

- Research of the reliability and resiliency of delivery of renewable hydrogen via pipeline;
- Focus on fuel cell demonstrations at Data Centers, e.g.:
 - Pilots to demonstrate 100% renewable data centers (both primary and backup power with all storage required);
 - Pilot demonstrations of integrated solar, wind, battery & fuel cell microgrid systems;
 - Hydrogen ecosystem – allow renewable hydrogen and oxygen from data centers be made available for other uses, including transportation and industrial uses;
- Alternative backup power generation designs, e.g., use of distributed generators for both primary and backup power generation;
- Reversible fuel cells;
- Renewable electrolysis & biogenic hydrogen production demonstrations to engender cost reduction for green hydrogen.

In addition, we request: 1) further expansion to scale up manufacturing and deployment of hydrogen and fuel cells; 2) consideration of multiple benefits for multi-use resources like hydrogen; 3) ensuring that any clean pilot programs take the form of large, commercial-scale demonstrations that can promote cost-effective improvements along the green hydrogen supply chain, including any needed infrastructure for green hydrogen transport and storage.

Thank you for your consideration of these research, development and demonstration topics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WAZobel', written over a horizontal line.

William "Bill" Zobel

Executive Director

California Hydrogen Business Council

¹ The CHBC is comprised of over 120 companies and agencies involved in the business of hydrogen. Our mission is to advance the commercialization of hydrogen in the energy sector, including transportation, goods movement, and stationary power systems to reduce emissions and dependence on oil. **The views expressed in these comments are those of the CHBC, and do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the individual CHBC member companies.** CHBC Members are listed here: <https://www.californiahydrogen.org/aboutus/chbc-members/>