

DOCKETED

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Fuel cells are an excellent alternative to diesel back-up

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



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February 12, 2021

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

Subject: Longitude 122 West, Inc. Comments on Clean Energy Alternatives to Diesel Backup Generator Systems Workshop

We at Longitude 122 West, Inc. believe that California ought to prioritize accelerating expanded deployment of clean power generation technologies, in particular hydrogen fuel cells, which are far cleaner and safer, and are commercially available today.

Prioritizing fuel cells as the preferred technology will highlight the state's commitment to clean energy in all phases of activity in the state, including emergency situations in California.

It also 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 to support 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, and can contribute to an electricity reliability and renewables integration strategy.

Since fuel cells have the potential to replace diesel engines for both stationary and portable power generation, and Polymer Electrolyte Membrane (PEM) fuel cells have the most promise for back-up power, we recommend that California focus research on advancing the durability and efficiency of PEM fuel cells. A demonstration of significant scale would be the most valuable.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Best regards,

Susan Schoenung, Ph.D.
President