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Funding for replacement of gasoline driven transportation vans

Good morning, as per my comment provided during the workshop held today (May 9th, 2023), the Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE) provides educational services to students with disabilities and special needs within the geographical area of Imperial County. ICOE also provides transportation services for these specific students. Our county is within a small district, and we serve underserved communities and low-income communities. We currently operate a fleet of gasoline driven transportation vans that sit between 7 to 10 passengers and these vans perfectly meet our transportation needs. Nevertheless, ICOE would like to replace some of our vans for EV vans, but our vans do not meet the definition of buses and do not meet the eligibility requirements. We strongly encourage CARB to evaluate our scenario as it does prevent our office from applying for any funds. We believe there might be other offices of education or local education agencies that might fall under the same scenario.