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IRA HEEHRA Phase I Community Benefits Plan

I am writing to elaborate on comments I made during the section for oral comments from the listening audience at the July 22, 2024 online introduction of the Phase I HEEHRA Community Benefits Plan and to add new requests.

Although the plan includes excellent work to mobilize and train the workforce and equipment suppliers for installation of heat pumps, appliances and related energy efficient equipment, I feel the plan needs major work on identifying and planning recruitment of a broader group of individual consumers of those services. As delineated in the presentation, the plan seeks to increase the number of low income consumer beneficiaries, but there are currently unnamed categories of such prospective consumers that should be specifically identified and recruited to achieve that goal:

1. Condominium owners. While a large number in this group live in multifamily buildings they do not fit the profile of whole building property owners or management companies that Energy Solutions, the selected company for plan implementation, currently plans to engage.
2. Condominium renters. Similar to condominium owners this group typically pays utility cost for the unit in which they reside and would be motivated to reduce those costs, but would not be reached through the building or management company channel of contact that Energy Solutions plans to use.
3. The circumstances of ADU, Additional Dwelling Units, owners or renters are similar to those of condominium residents and should be addressed specifically.
4. Mobile home owners or renters comprise yet another group of residents who live in units typically equipped with cooling and heating systems and should benefit from the HEEHRA Phase I offerings.

I also think that the full HEEHRA rebate amounts of \$8,000.00 for low income condominium, ADU or mobile home owners, and the \$4,000.00 amount for moderate income owners of such properties should be made available in Phase I of the Community Benefits package. The paltry sums of money allotted for renters in multifamily buildings owned and managed by single entities would not reasonably offset the financial costs of energy efficiency upgrades to condominium, ADU and mobile home owners.

I request that the Phase I plan clearly delineate the meaning of the term Area Median Income, AMI, in individual cases and provide a means for individual resident to determine their specific eligibility based on their California residence street address. An automated feature for this purpose providing this information should be added to the menu of navigation questions asked at the beginning information searches on the SwitchIsOn website. Additional questions about the specific type of household where the inquirers reside should be added to the SwitchIsOn website menus to differentiate between households based on the wider range of features discussed in this commentary and to provide more exact information to individual prospective beneficiaries of HEEHRA rebates.