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Job placement for those facing barriers to quality employment

Job placement for those facing barriers to quality employment. Returning citizens. Comment on Community Benefits Plan Section 3: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility. The section states that the program will [quote] Employ job placement assistance to residents of disadvantaged, tribal, rural, and low-income communities, and individuals with barriers to employment.[end quote] However, the last group is not defined and the activities that will provide support are not specified.

The DOE guidelines (DOE 4.1.4, item 2, p.56) provides a more explicit example: making a commitment [quote] To fill open positions for home electrification jobs utilizing home electrification rebates [to] those facing systemic barriers to quality employment, such as those with disabilities, women, returning citizens, opportunity youth, and veterans. [end quote]

RECOMMENDATION: The Community Benefits plan should explicitly include, at minimum, the groups named by DOE. We especially support the inclusion of returning citizens (formerly incarcerated persons) because they are often overlooked in job opportunity programs.

Dean Toji, for:

Long Beach 350

Environmental Justice Committee of the AAPI Equity Alliance

(DOE refers to: US Department of Energy, Office of State and Community Energy Programs, Home Energy Rebate Programs Requirements and Application Instructions - Updated October 13, 2023.)