



**SOUTH BAY CITIES**  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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July 8, 2008

To: Michael Smith  
Deputy Director, Fuels and Transportation  
California Energy Commission

Re: Comments on AB 118 Investment Plan Development

<b>DOCKET</b>
08-ALT-1
DATE JUL 0 6 2008
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The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) is pleased to have this opportunity to submit comments on AB118's Investment Plan. The SBCCOG is a joint powers authority with 16 member cities which includes part of the City of Los Angeles. We are located in the South Bay sub-region of Los Angeles County.

At this stage of Investment Plan development I would recommend that projects that help determine the market potential, identify market barriers, and identify possible market incentives for alternative fuels and vehicles be included among the project types eligible for funding.

Earlier this year, the SBCCOG Board of Directors adopted an initiative to make the South Bay "Neighborhood Vehicle Friendly." This initiative primarily involves removing market barriers to the immediate wide scale deployment of a range of alternative fuel vehicles, especially neighborhood electric vehicles. The costs involve preparing maps showing legal routes for neighborhood vehicles, re-striping parking lots, producing new signage, and adding charging opportunities in public areas. Success in achieving wide scale deployment will depend on stimulating the market with demonstration of these vehicles in targeted sub-communities such as with seniors. Additionally we want to evaluate the travel habits of those who purchase the vehicles as well as the barriers identified by non-purchasers.

The SBCCOG has sought funds for these activities from a diverse array of government agencies including Caltrans, California Department of Finance, SCAG, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority and the South Coast Air Quality District with no success so far. I hope that AB 118 will fill the existing void for funding innovations oriented to market realities.

I look forward to following your process of developing and adopting the Investment Plan.

Sincerely,

Jacki Bacharach, Executive Director  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments

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