



December 1, 2008

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 08-ALT-1
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

RE: "08-ALT-1" - Alternative Fuels and Advance Vehicle Technology and AB 118 Regulations

It has come to my attention that the California Energy Commission is actively seeking project proposals that would advance the goals of Assembly Bill 118 (Núñez). The California Ethanol Vehicle Coalition (www.calevc.org) is pleased to be in support of this legislation, and is planning to apply for funding consideration.

This measure – and your able administration – will assign specific funding from a wide swath of Californians to an equally wide array of alternative fuel and vehicle projects aimed at providing cleaner air and a reliable energy supply. It is our intent to submit a formal project proposal for your funding consideration that will enable the CEVC to help the state reach its clean-air goals.

It's clear that Californians overwhelmingly support cleaner transportation fuels and vehicles. While we are a car loving – and car dependent – culture, we also recognize the need to do more to sustain our mobility while reducing emissions and our reliance on foreign sources of energy. Further, California is recognized as a global leader when it comes to advancing environmental protection programs, and this bill will work to keep our momentum going forward at a time when we need it most.

In our case, we believe the funds are vital to the successful and sustained launch of an ethanol fuel infrastructure in California. It's ironic that, despite California's global environmental leadership with the cleanest cars and fuels, there is still very little recognition of ethanol's use – and potentially vast benefits – as a low-carbon fuel. We aim to change that.

We firmly believe ethanol fuels like E85 are needed to bolster our domestic energy supplies, create a new source of economic industry in California

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(especially in rural areas of the State), and to play a significant role in meeting our greenhouse gas emission targets as set forth in AB 32 legislation.

With new rules in place to address carbon dioxide emissions and reductions in the use of petroleum fuel, it is clear that California is now looking to domestically produced ethanol to help address its environmental challenges.

With targeted funding from such sources as AB 118, CEVC will be able to increase its role as a central clearinghouse of information on E85 and Flexible Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) for fleets and public consumers.

The Coalition will also play an important role in bringing vendors and state agencies together to resolve market and fueling barriers still facing E85 and FFVs. And we will conduct such outreach activities as: maintaining an up-to-date website featuring key information on California's ethanol production and use; public workshops; a speakers' bureau; printed materials and guidebooks; vehicle and fuel availability databases; liaison roles for producers and consumers; and forming shared knowledge networks to increase awareness and understanding of advances in developing cellulosic biofuels.

CEVC, a non-profit entity, enjoys the full support of the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition as a sanctioned State Chapter. Together, we are prepared to participate in the California process and offer assistance and resources needed to further stimulate the ethanol fuel and vehicle market.

I look forward to submitting a more detailed project proposal that will seek AB 118 funds to help provide much-needed organizational support to FFV drivers and the biofuels industry that is working hard to develop cleaner fuels. Thank you very much for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



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