

# MEMO

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To: California Energy Commission  
From: Jim Robbins & Robert Garzee,  
Electronic Transportation Development Center  
Date: February 23, 2009  
Re: Response to AB118 Public Hearing in San Jose

The plans for a Silicon Valley based electric school bus demonstration project were presented at the recent public hearing in San Jose on Feb. 11, 2009. This memo is to provide a document for the public record of our intent to propose such demonstration project for AB118 funding.

The San Jose Electronic Transportation Development Center was developed by the City of San Jose, SynergyEV, and the Environmental Business Cluster and is a place where:

-Established and early-stage companies focus on the design, development, commercialization and prototype manufacturing of alternate fuels and hybrid electronic commercial vehicles, &

-Companies can collaborate on projects, share labs, manufacturing, demonstration, & office space.

The ETDC's initial demonstration project is to build a new generation battery electric school bus. It is estimated that a zero emission battery dominant school buses could save up to 11,000,000 Gallons of fuel/yr in California and provide significant emissions relief.

The demonstration prototype the ETDC proposes to build uses a base bus from Proterra that is already a successful commercial prototype as a fuel cell transit bus and converts it to a battery dominant bus while adding 18 Silicon Valley technologies. These added technologies include 10 categories:

1. Solar Fueling for battery energy
2. Testing different battery technologies
3. Limp-home Genset
4. Energy reduction technologies (LED, sensors, etc.)

5. Solar monitoring & solar roof for on-board air conditioning
6. Global positioning
7. Child safety – crash avoidance, onboard video, wireless communications
8. Onboard student training systems
9. Data storage
10. School district order financing option

Although the base bus and Silicon Valley technologies and the technology partners have been identified, approximately \$2M in funding is needed to develop the first prototype school bus. Many of these Silicon Valley technologies can also be improvements to the Transit Bus product. Finally, Proterra intends to manufacture school buses in California and is in discussions with the City of San Jose about a manufacturing site, subject to funding of the school bus prototype development.

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