

## Comments of the California Green Stimulus Coalition on the *SEP Guidelines*

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The California Green Stimulus Coalition is an alliance of dozens of California's most influential and respected organizations advocating for the environment, economic justice, organized labor and a strong workforce system. As California decides how to use its federal stimulus dollars, we advocate for investments that advance California's long term environmental goals; create high quality jobs and lead to high road economic development; and provide for truly shared prosperity.

The Coalition commends the California Energy Commission (CEC) staff for your hard work in preparing the State Energy Program (SEP) guidelines, and appreciates the inclusion of previously recommended key principles and priorities. We believe the guidelines are strong, and we offer the following recommendations for your consideration:

(1) Strengthen the link between the SEP funded workforce programs and the SEP Retrofit Program guidelines by:

- a. Requesting details on *how* the applicants will coordinate with the CEC funded workforce training programs;
- b. Using the hiring plans for the submitted programs as part of the metrics used to rank the applications (e.g., provide an additional incentive point for those applicants that target hiring of workers with barriers to employment, such as high school drop outs, adults with other barriers, etc.);
- c. Providing an additional incentive point for those applicants that provide on-the-job training for trainees in workforce programs that receive CEC ARRA funding

(2) Explicitly state prevailing wage requirements: We recommend that the guidelines explicitly state the prevailing wage requirements for projects that receive ARRA funds and include the appropriate required wage tables for each major metropolitan area in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft SEP Guidelines. We look forward to continuing to work with the CEC and stakeholders to ensure that ARRA funds are used effectively to achieve significant energy savings and increase the number of quality green jobs in California.