

**DOCKET****10-ALT-01**DATE June 06 2011RECD. Aug 08 2011

June 6, 2011

Mr. James D. Boyd, Vice-Chair and Presiding Member
Ms. Carla Peterman, Commissioner and Associate Member
California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Docket No. 10-ALT-1 Advisory Committee Meeting

Ref: Comment on *2011-2012 Investment Plan for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program* Committee Draft Report. California Energy Commission, Fuels and Transportation Division. Publication Number: CEC-600-2011-006-CTD

Dear Commissioners Boyd and Peterman,

CONNECT writes to fully endorse the mission of the Committee Draft Report that encourages investments in Plug-in Electric Vehicle (PEV) charging infrastructures to help reduce the amount of petroleum and greenhouse gas emissions. Grants supporting the expansion for charging infrastructure, especially utilizing photovoltaic systems, are vital to promote the commercialization of alternative fuels and electric vehicle supply equipment which will result in new job creation and technological innovation. Additionally, such infrastructure expansion is critical as the number of PEV's continues to increase in the next few years increasing demand on alternative energy and reducing reliance on foreign oil.

CONNECT is a nonprofit organization, birthed out of the University of California—San Diego, that is dedicated to creating and sustaining the growth of innovative technology and related businesses, including the cleantech sector. Thus our interest in the Commission's actions is profound. Since 1985, CONNECT has assisted in the formation and development of over 2,000 companies and is widely regarded as one the world's most successful regional programs linking inventors and entrepreneurs with the business, legal and financing resources they need for success. CONNECT focuses on research institution support, business creation and development, entrepreneurial learning, access to capital, protection of intellectual property, public policy advocacy, awards, recognition and networking. More than 40 countries and regions have adopted the CONNECT model, including New York City, the U.K, Australia and India, while several Latin America, South America and Mid-East city/regions are likely to adopt



the CONNECT model in 2011/2012. Additionally, CONNECT is the recipient of the 2010 Innovation in Economic Development Award in the “Innovation in Regional Innovation Clusters” category presented by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration.

The Commission is on point regarding its goal to promote workplace and fleet charging infrastructure with an emphasis on battery storage and renewable charging. The Committee properly recognized that while most PEV consumers will charge at home, they must be assured of readily available charging stations within their driving radius. Thus, it is imperative that investments be made to provide equipment grants for technologies that encourage off-peak charging or reduction of on-peak charging via renewables such as photovoltaic charging as part of a spectrum of charging options.

We commend the Commission for its effort and commitment to keeping California at the forefront of PEV development and utilization. We encourage the Commission to continue its leadership by providing investments in charging equipment systems especially using renewables.

We stand ready to assist the Commission with any further information it needs.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNECT, by:

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