

September 17, 2012

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket 12-HYD-1  
1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**

**12-HYD-1**

TN # 67174

SEP 17 2012

**Subject: Hydrogen and Transportation – DRAFT Solicitation Comment - Docket 12-HYD-1**

Linde commends the CEC on the completion of the draft PON and on requesting input from all stakeholders. We believe it is important for the CEC to continue to provide funding for hydrogen fueling infrastructure to enable the commercial release of large numbers of fuel cell vehicles by OEM's in California in the 2015-2017 timeframe. The comments and questions below are in response to the above referenced draft PON.

1. Is \$200,000 in O&M funding included in the maximum \$1.5 m in funding to a station or in addition to the \$1.5 m in funding?
2. If the \$29.69 m is not entirely awarded, can the CEC provide some indication as to what happens to this funding that is not awarded allowing station developers to consider any additional PON that could be released in the near term to award this incremental funding up to \$29.69 m? In addition, the OEM's provided 12 secondary station location areas and the draft PON made no reference to these or why these are excluded and whether they would be part of a potential phase 2 funding to award the entire \$29.69 m. To the extent the CEC can clarify these items, station developers can better plan their efforts resulting in a better outcome for the State and the industry.
3. If insurance on equipment is considered an expense to be reimbursed as part of Operations and Maintenance funding per the draft PON, can the CEC also consider the cost of land that the equipment is placed on as a reimbursable expense? Both are necessary costs directly associated with operation of the equipment and are well-defined and trackable project costs.
4. Can a process be put in place which allows applicants to request UC Irvine provide drive times from intersections to station locations prior to proposals being submitted? This would allow station developers to compare different sites and propose those that are best located without having to propose many stations that may have little chance of being awarded grant funding.

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide these comments and questions. We look forward to working with the Energy Commission in bringing high performance, cost-effective hydrogen fueling infrastructure to California. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions at 908-656-6471 or 510-786-5925.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light beige background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Steve Eckhardt".

Steve Eckhardt  
Program Manager, Hydrogen Fueling  
Linde North America