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March 14, 2013

Chair Robert Weisenmiller
Commissioner Karen Douglas
California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 12-ALT-02
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED
12-ALT-02

TN # 69933

MAR. 15 2013

Re: 2013-2014 ARFVTP Investment Plan

Dear Chair Weisenmiller and Commissioner Douglas:

On behalf of the American Lung Association in California, I am writing to express our support for the 2013-2014 AB 118 ARFVTP Investment Plan. The American Lung Association in California strongly supports the AB 118 program because it is critical to accelerate the deployment of clean, next-generation technologies to enable California to cut dependence on petroleum and meet AB 32 climate change goals as well as federal air quality targets. We appreciate the ability to provide our input into the development of the plan and applaud the work of staff to bring about significant improvements in the development of the plans over recent years.

As we have stated in the past, it is critical to ensure that funds are spent on projects that contribute to the advancement of clean sustainable alternative fuels and technologies over the long term and near term projects that keep us on this path. We are pleased that this plan reflects significant coordination between air quality and climate change needs and provides funding to support key strategies needed to protect and improve public health against threats ranging from increases in heart and lung illnesses, hospitalizations, emergency room visits and premature deaths linked to pollution. **In particular, the American Lung Association in California strongly supports the funding allocations recommended for hydrogen infrastructure as well as to support electric vehicle deployment, infrastructure and readiness and cleaner heavy/medium duty technologies proposed in the 2013-14 Investment Plan.**

1. Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure

We support the staff's proposed acceleration in hydrogen funding to launch the fueling infrastructure necessary to achieve commercialization of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. Achieving California's air quality and climate change goals will clearly require a large deployment of fuel cell vehicles along with other zero emission vehicle pathways, and infrastructure is critical to support the planned vehicle roll out. The proposed \$20 million investment in

this plan and commitments in future plans for hydrogen infrastructure will demonstrate California's commitment to this strategy and ensure key station thresholds are reached.

2. Electric Vehicle Deployment and Community Readiness

The American Lung Association in California supports the proposed dedication of \$5 million toward plug-in electric vehicle purchase incentives and \$7 million to electric vehicle charging infrastructure. We view these investments as vital to local and regional electric vehicle readiness, consumer adoption and deployment of this critical vehicle technology. Advancing electric vehicle readiness at the local level is an appropriate use of Investment Plan funds to build awareness and expand charging infrastructure network coverage. Expanding charging infrastructure and incentivizing consumers to make cleaner vehicle choices will continue to spur the transition to clean technologies that reduce local and regional air pollution that harm lung health and exacerbate asthma and other respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses.

3. Medium and Heavy Duty Advanced Vehicle Technology Demonstration

The American Lung Association in California also strongly supports the proposed investment of \$15 million in ARFVTP funds to Medium and Heavy Duty Advanced Vehicle Technology category. Investment in hybrid electric and other clean technologies in this sector will help to provide critical emission reductions and public health benefits by reducing toxic diesel pollution exposures. This work is critical to health protection and improvement in California's most disadvantaged communities, particularly those located near ports, major roadways, rail yards and other goods movement locations.

As seen in the 2050 Clean Air Vision prepared by the California Air Resources Board and South Coast and San Joaquin Valley air districts, the pathway to achieving health-protective air quality and climate goals is challenging and investment is needed in the near term. Without ongoing and early investments in alternative fuel and vehicle technologies and infrastructure like those proposed in the Investment Plan to achieve a transition to near-zero and zero emission transportation technologies, Californians will continue to face unhealthy pollution burdens, particularly in our most disadvantaged communities and among our most vulnerable populations. We appreciate that the 2050 Vision's multi-pollutant approach was considered in the development of the 2013-14 plan in the context of long range goals to improve air quality and health in California.

We thank you and CEC staff again for your diligent work and outreach to craft a positive Investment Plan that supports the transformation of our transportation sector and a clean air future for California. We look forward to continued engagement in the development of future plans to benefit public health in our State.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Holmes-Gen
Senior Director, Policy and Advocacy