

June 1, 2021

The Honorable Toni Atkins President Pro Tempore, CA State Senate State Capitol, Room 205 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Anthony Rendon Speaker, CA State Assembly State Capitol, Room 219 Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: Investments in Zero Emission Vehicle Fueling Infrastructure and Reauthorization of the Clean Transportation Program

Senator Atkins and Speaker Rendon,

We write to you today regarding the Governor's proposed investments in zero emission vehicle fueling infrastructure and the reauthorization of the Clean Transportation Program (CTP), formerly known as the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program.

For all communities to truly participate in this exciting transition, hydrogen fueling infrastructure will be critical. Both zero emission vehicle technologies are essential to meet the needs of all consumers and assure public acceptance.

Because of its fast fueling capabilities and vehicles offering longer ranges and larger sizes without a loss in efficiency or capacity, fuel cell electric vehicles offer a 1:1 replacement for gasoline and diesel vehicles. This advantage is critical as we consider how to best meet the driving needs of residents living in older buildings and multi-family dwellings, single-vehicle households, super-commuters which includes transportation networking companies and, for example, those working in the agriculture and construction fields.

The Air Resources Board's most recent Mobile Source Strategy projects fuel cell vehicles will constitute 25% of light-duty zero emission<sup>1</sup> vehicles, which equates to well-above 6 million vehicles. Fast refueling and unlimited capacity provide even more compelling benefits in the heavy-duty vehicle space, including transit districts. Adding to the environmental benefits of fuel cell electric vehicles, the Air Resources Board has noted that 90%<sup>2</sup> of hydrogen fuel dispensed today is renewable.

Intended to support Executive Order N-79-20 related to zero emission vehicles, the 2021-2022 revised budget proposal provides \$500M in general fund dollars for near-term investments in fueling infrastructure. We

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Draft Mobile Source Strategy, California Air Resources Board, November 2020 (p. 58)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 2020 Annual Evaluation of Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Deployment & Hydrogen Fuel Station Network Development, California Air Resource Board, September 2020 (p. xxiv)

respectfully request \$300M be made available to bring the light-duty hydrogen market to a point of selfsufficiency, as illustrated<sup>3</sup> by the Air Resources Board.

The 2021-2022 revised budget proposal also calls for the reauthorization of the Clean Transportation Program. Outside of the broadly-available Low Carbon Fuel Standard Program, the Clean Transportation Program is the only program directly supporting hydrogen fueling infrastructure. Therefore, we request the reauthorization maintain the existing 20% set-aside for hydrogen while shifting focus to the heavy-duty fueling market, including transit agencies.

Together these recommendations will provide the support and signal needed for private sector investments to enable California's zero emission vehicle future.

Sincerely,

Archileta

Senator Bob Archuleta California State Senate, District 32

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Senator Bill Dodd California State Senate, District 3

Senator Ben Hueso California State Senate, District 40

m. Gabelli

Senator Anna Caballero California State Senate, District 12

Senator Lena A. Gonzalez California State Senate, District 33

Senator Melissa Hurtado California State Senate, District 14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hydrogen Station Network Self Sufficiency Analysis per Assembly Bill 8, California Air Resources Board, November 2020

Senator Josh Newman California State Senate, District 29

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Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry California State Assembly, District 1

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