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Ms. Shelby Livingston California Air Resources Board Attention: Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Unit 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

## **Re: Public Comment on Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds**

Dear Ms. Livingston:

The Marin Energy Authority ("MEA") believes the Air Resources Board ought to leverage auction proceeds from the Cap-and-Trade program to support both existing and forming green Community Choice Aggregators ("CCAs") statewide because CCAs are one of California's best means for achieving its ambitious and essential Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") reduction goals. MEA administers the only operational CCA within California. Furthermore, MEA was founded as a 'green' CCA designed to address climate change by reducing energy related greenhouse gas emissions and securing energy supply, price stability, energy efficiencies and local economic and workforce benefits. Therefore, MEA is concerned with the effective and fair implementation of the Assembly Bill 32 ("AB 32") California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 and the Cap-and-Trade program and believes that Green CCAs are a crucial means for California to achieving its GHG reduction goals set forth in AB 32.

MEA currently serves customers in Marin County, and is beginning to serve customers in the City of Richmond. MEA provides generation services to upwards of 90,000 customers and anticipates expanding to approximately 125,000 once Richmond is fully enrolled in July, 2013. MEA leads statewide efforts to lower greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions related to electricity consumption by offering 50% and 100% renewable energy content electricity products to its customers. MEA also offers a Feed-in-Tariff program and Open Season PPA bidding process to enable its purchase of local renewable electricity, which in turn drives local economic development.

Energy efficiency is also a fundamental goal of the MEA. MEA seeks to achieve comprehensive energy savings in hard to reach sectors with a combination of streamlined program services and the availability of financing. MEA is administering Energy Efficiency ("EE") programs for all electricity customers within MEA's service territory as part of the California Public Utilities Commission's ("CPUC") 2013-2014 EE program cycle. MEA is providing targeted and innovative energy saving solutions to small commercial, single family, and multifamily residential customers MEA is also leading statewide efforts to develop On-Bill Repayment ("OBR") programs to assist with financing EE projects; MEA is the first CPUC regulated entity to receive funding and approval to implement OBR programs. MEA is considering designing additional programs beyond EE such as programs to encourage the adoption of Electric Vehicles ("EV") and Energy Storage ("ES") solutions at the community level as well.

Through its actions, MEA demonstrates the numerous means with which CCAs can drive reductions in GHG emissions. CCAs provide consumers with choice in the electricity market enabling them to purchase cleaner electricity. CCAs are also able to lead the creation of innovating energy efficiency programs and drive local renewable energy development. For all these reasons, Air Resources Board should leverage auction proceeds from the Cap-and-Trade program to support both existing and emerging green CCAs statewide because CCAs are one of California's best means for achieving its ambitious and essential GHG reduction goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input on how Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds should be allocated.

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Dawn Weisz Executive Director, Marin Energy Authority