May 7, 2012

Ms. Johanna Levine Innovative Strategies Branch California Air Resources Board CalEPA Headquarters 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

## Re: Comment on Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Funding Plan – 2012-2013 – Support for Electrification Leadership Council Plan Proposal

Dear Ms. Levine:

Automatiks, Inc., a Silicon Valley, venture funded innovator, is committed to producing superior financial returns for its shareowners. We are also committed to finding innovative ways to help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in the global community we serve.

That is, in part, why Automatiks became part of the Electrification Leadership Council (ELC), which is committed to producing a replicable model of an Electric Vehicle (EV) Ecosystem that can demonstrate how these vehicles would operate, respond to customer needs and reduce emissions in California, and ultimately throughout the world. We are writing to specifically urge you to recommend to the California Air Resources Board approval of ELC's funding proposal for the Air Quality Improvement Program Funding Plan 2012-2013.

We think this effort – developed by the companies that make up the ELC – is a vital, well-timed step toward an increasingly sustainable EV transportation future.

We are committed to leveraging commercial EVs in large numbers as a means of accelerating urban air quality improvement, reducing oil dependence and creating clean jobs.

However, no single electric vehicle vendor or market participant can unilaterally provide the whole EV package that consumers and industry need.

A collaborative effort is needed among EV equipment manufacturers, fleet operators, utilities, policymakers and communities to create a model by which electric vehicles can be integrated into our transportation and freight movement industries.

Thus, the ELC was formed. The ELC is a coalition of key stakeholders throughout the EV supply chain who have the expertise and resources required

to engage federal, state and regional agencies and coalitions, utility companies, vehicle manufacturers and financial institutions to help overcome the barriers to broad scale EV deployment.

This group of top executives from blue chip companies and representatives from national, state and local agencies has come together to design a large-scale EV demonstration project that will help create a national model for EV deployment.

ELC member companies are working to create the nation's first comprehensive EV Ecosystem, a local environment in which market participants operate within a concentrated, well-defined geographic area where the physical components of the environment, such as commercial electric vehicles, charging stations, electrical grid infrastructure, energy storage devices, communication systems and support networks allow the operators to optimize the operations of EVs.

Participants will work within the EV Ecosystem to validate the usage of electric vehicles, collect data, discuss strategy and collaborate with policy officials and communities to develop a comprehensive EV deployment model by which EV technology can be implemented on a broad scale nationwide.

On a relatively large scale with up to 1,500 vehicles in a single market, the first demonstration project will study the EV Ecosystem in both a holistic and detailed way, identifying barriers that might not have been otherwise apparent in previous, smaller EV research & development projects. Real working solutions will be established, documented and folded into a deployment model, which will then be transferred to more test markets across the country.

Large-scale vehicle deployment, detailed data collection, open participation to all fleet operators and OEMs as well as collaboration between market experts and policy officials are all unique aspects of this project that will drive its success.

That is why we urge you to recommend to the CARB Board approval of the ELC's EV Ecosystem funding proposal.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

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Steve Wollenberg Co-Founder and Vice President, Automatiks

cc: Daniel Sperling, California Air Resources Board Cliff Rechtschaffen, Senior Advisor, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.