

5/25/2021

California Air Resources Board 1001 I St. Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Electrify America's Cycle 3 Investment Plan

Dear California Air Resources Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet in support of Electrify America's Cycle 3 California ZEV Investment Plan. This significant, \$200 million investment in California over 30 months will bring the state closer to achieving its emissions goals to combat climate change and improve air quality by transitioning to zero emission transportation, including in transit and heavy-duty applications.

Acterra has managed and facilitated EV education and outreach since 2016-we need partners like Electrify America to make this work more prominent in the communities we serve.

This is the third of four investment cycles by Electrify America, which is investing \$800 million over 10 years to accelerate transportation electrification in California. The Cycle 3 ZEV Investment Plan will continue to expand access to zero emission vehicles (ZEV) in California, by further building out ultra-fast charging infrastructure in metropolitan areas and along highway corridors, supporting transit and medium- and heavy-duty fleet charging, and continuing to invest in brand neutral education and awareness efforts, including supporting and sponsoring the ZEV education and training of other organizations.

Importantly, the plan continues to prioritize rural, disadvantaged, and low income communities for investment, to ensure that all communities can access charging and benefit from the transition to electric vehicles. Among other activities identified in the plan, Electrify America will invest \$25 million investment in a Green City program in the Long Beach-Wilmington community, home to the nation's busiest port complex and served by a fleet of more than 18,000 drayage trucks. This targeted investment to support electrification of transit and medium and heavy-duty vehicles in this predominantly disadvantaged and low-income community will advance CARB's priorities to quickly transition buses and drayage trucks to ZEVs, and quickly reduce pollution in a community that is classified as extreme non-attainment under the Clean Air Act.

For Acterra to support communities across the Bay Area, we need the investment in our communities (particularly to communities considered underserved) to see adoption at the rates we need to curb climate change.

Electrify America's investments are creating economic opportunity for many stakeholders. For example, responding vendors to Electrify America's 2020 survey identified more than 8,000 workers employed by themselves and subcontractors that worked on Electrify America projects from July to December 2020, including 1,022 workers in California. Of these workers, vendors reported that 62% lived in low-income and disadvantaged communities.¹

We respectfully urge you to find that Electrify America's Cycle 3 California ZEV Investment Plan is consistent with requirements at your June 24th meeting, in order not just to keep California on the forefront of, but a leader in, the fight against climate change.

Respectfull

Lauren Weston Executive Director Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

¹ "2020 Annual Report to CARB." April 30, 2021. <u>https://media.electrifyamerica.com/assets/documents/original/681-</u> 2020ElectrifyAmericaCaliforniaAnnualReportPublic.pdf