



GREATER SACRAMENTO
ECONOMIC COUNCIL

Greater Sacramento Economic Council
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2500
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 7, 2017

Mary D. Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1011 I Street, P.O. Box 2415
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Volkswagen Settlement California ZEV Investment Plan

Dear Chair Nichols,

It is with great enthusiasm that the Greater Sacramento Economic Council offers its full support for the Volkswagen Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan, including the designation of Sacramento as the first Green City. This investment will help the City of Sacramento as well as the entire region achieve its real potential of developing a strong clean technology cluster.

We believe that the Sacramento region is a critical location to develop new, innovative programs. Our region is poised for business expansion in clean technologies: we have a talented workforce with 48% of university graduates with STEM degrees and our market has high connectivity to established clean tech hubs in California and beyond. Despite these strengths, our region has lagged in recovery from the economic downturn. The Sacramento Promise Zone has a poverty rate over 34% and the region's poorest quintile has endured a 27% drop in average income since 2007, compared to the national decrease of 12%. The Volkswagen ZEV Investment would help us maximize our strengths and benefit our weakest. In short, a \$44 million investment in green technology would be truly transformational for Sacramento.

The Greater Sacramento Economic Council is ready to work with the City of Sacramento to deliver revolutionary outcomes for our region. The proposals of this plan align with our organization's objective to transform our region's economy. The investments will further our goal to attract businesses in the clean technology sector, developing a strong cluster around green industry and making our region more competitive locally, nationally, and internationally.

Thank you for considering Sacramento for this incredible opportunity. We look forward to working with our partners to achieve a cleaner and stronger Sacramento.

Sincerely,

Barry Broome
President and CEO



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cc: Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
Kevin de León, Senate President Pro Tempore
Anthony Rendon, Assembly Speaker
Doris Matsui, Congresswoman
ARB Board Members
Darrell Steinberg, Mayor of the City of Sacramento
Electrify America