



May 27<sup>th</sup>, 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:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC), I am writing to express our strong 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.

Achieving California's GHG reduction goals through transportation electrification remains one of the LABC's top legislative priorities. Our State's transition to this new system must be built upon the principles of equity. Frontline communities are disproportionately impacted by the negative consequences of climate change and have carried the most significant health and environmental burden for far too long. Considering the magnitude that COVID-19 has had on frontline communities, the need for an equitable transition to transportation electrification has only grown. Recently the LABC Institute commissioned a study authored by the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation, which represents a new strategy to expand and identify how to measure household and community scale progress toward expanding equitable access to clean transportation and recommendations to develop a feasible agenda for near- and long-term equity-centered policies. The LABC recognizes the need to fully fund clean transportation programs, such as this investment plan, and require those investments be made in historically disadvantaged and low-income communities.

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 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 the 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.

Electrify America's investments are also creating economic opportunities for many stakeholders throughout California. 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.<sup>1</sup>

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Leslie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Leslie  
President  
LABC/LABC Institute

---

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