



**Kern Council
of Governments**

May 28, 2021

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

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

Honorable California Air Resources Board Members:

Kern Council of Governments supports 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. These efforts are needed and appreciated in the San Joaquin Valley.

Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) is an association of city and county governments primarily created to address regional transportation issues. Its member agencies include the County of Kern and its 11 incorporated cities.

This is the third of four investment cycles by Electrify America. Kern COG values the accomplished and proposed investment in Kern County made by Electrify America. They have not only completed key corridor charging locations, but also invested in community charging in locations such as medical office buildings.

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. The 2019 Kern Electric Vehicle Charging Station Blueprint developed by Kern COG also seeks to support a transition to zero emission transportation technologies.

Kern COG holds an annual transit symposium, *TRANSITions* to provide transit and school district bus operators with information about the Innovative Clean Transit Regulation, the available technologies, utility programs, and grants and incentives. Our transit operators have begun the transition to electric and to hydrogen fuel technologies. Our agency has participated in the development of transit apps, and electric carshare programs in our region. We see the Cycle 3 Plan as an extension and expansion of these efforts.

I respectfully urge you to find that Electrify America's Cycle 3 California ZEV Investment Plan is consistent with requirements at your June 24th meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ahron Hakimi", enclosed in a thin blue rectangular border.

Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director