



# CALIFORNIA HYDROGEN BUSINESS COUNCIL

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Mark Abramowitz

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January 25, 2012

To:

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Re: **Comments on Proposed 2012 Amendments to the Clean Fuels Outlet**

Dear Chairman Nichols and Members of the Board:

I am Mark Abramowitz, President of the California Hydrogen Business Council (CHBC). The CHBC is a non-profit organization comprised of organizations and individuals involved in the business of hydrogen energy. Our members include:

- fuel cell manufacturers and suppliers
- manufacturers and distributors of hydrogen generation, compression and storage technologies
- manufacturers and suppliers of hydrogen internal combustion engines
- engineers and service providers
- municipal, state and federal agencies

CHBC actively supports hydrogen's growing commercial use, new hydrogen applications, and the transition of our energy infrastructure towards a cleaner, low carbon, hydrogen economy.

CHBC recognizes that the hydrogen-powered fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) can play an important role in moving our economy towards a greener, more sustainable model. Several of our OEM member companies are marketing FCEVs today, and they are planning larger volumes in the future. Our OEM members have expressed concern that even in the limited FCEV introductions so far, their vehicles have sat unused for extended periods while awaiting infrastructure. As volumes increase, it is essential that infrastructure be planned in advance of and in coordination with the planned introduction of fuel cell vehicles.

Without good public policy, we will forever be stuck in neutral – automakers will not be able to build FCEVs without adequate infrastructure and adequate infrastructure will be lacking without the promise of high volumes of FCEVs. Generally speaking, the CHBC is not in favor of mandates as the optimal public policy tool to achieve social goals.



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However, since a mandate on vehicle manufacturers to introduce Zero Emission Vehicles into the marketplace already exists, appropriate policies are necessary to assure the availability of adequate hydrogen infrastructure.

Therefore, the California Hydrogen Business Council supports the amendments to the CFO as proposed by staff. In addition, we support voluntary mechanisms that may be acceptable to CARB and industry that may achieve substantially similar results without actually implementing the CFO.

Regards,

Mark Abramowitz

President