

Nov. 21, 2016



Joint letter From Greenbank Associates and the School Energy Coalition (SEC)

To: CAEECC/ Program Administrators

RE: Comments on Proposed Business Plans

Greenbank Associates is an independent, sole-proprietor sustainability consultancy that is dedicated to maximizing GHG reductions, primarily through zero net energy, in school districts, higher education institutions, and major public or private sector portfolios. School Energy Coalition (SEC) represents over 120 school districts and associates statewide advocating for school energy efficiency and renewable project funding for California's students.

We'd like to thank the CAEECC for giving us this opportunity to give voice to the concerns of over 1000 public school districts in the State of California, in the future expenditure of potentially billions of dollars in Public Goods Charges statewide, over the next funding period, 2017-2025.

To date, it appears the K-12 schools as a building sector have seen very little investment from this Local Government Program/Public Sector funding, and primarily within "non-resource" or the "Workforce Education and Training" category. While most of these programs in the past may have been successful in educating a relatively small group of school-age students, we believe there is an opportunity to invest in two areas of great impact: providing for actual implementation of energy efficiency in existing K-12 facilities to greatly assist school districts in driving to zero net energy goals by 2030; and the opportunity to implement actual "workforce" (not K-12 students) "training"—both in building technical capacity within existing facilities operations/energy management staff, such as through the BOC, or other training programs, and training of our future workforce in energy management, environmental controls, advanced lighting, renewable energy systems, and commissioning, through community colleges or trade programs.

While we have not had the time to review the specifics of each Program Administrator's Business Plans in great detail, we would respectfully request that you consider a proposal to create a new "Statewide K-12 Public Schools Partnership," to address direct implementation of energy efficiency/deep energy retrofits in our existing portfolio of over 700,000,000 square feet of building portfolio, (the largest single Public Sector aggregate of GHG reduction potential in the State,) with arguably, the most distributed community support for investment of these public dollars.

In addition, we would like to propose that the Business Plans reflect some prioritization of these public goods charges towards the Public Sector overall, and the K-12 schools in particular, at least in the earlier

5 years of the funding cycle, in proportion to use/ potential savings, ease of achievement of ZNE to scale, and visibility of local models of our Statewide goals.

We believe that other statewide education associations and the Community College Chancellor's office, along with State agencies such as the Division of the State Architect, the California Department of Education and the State Allocation Board, would be very supportive of this idea. We have already been working together on K-14 energy efficiency and renewable projects through our work and participation in the Proposition 39 Program funded out of the Clean Energy Jobs Fund. This program (slated to sunset in 2018) has gone a long way to collect data and to identify projects that could get schools closer to ZNE – but the funding has fallen short of the deeper retrofits and renewable installations that would meet that goal.

We look forward to working together through CAEECC, and with our other State partner organizations, to realize this great opportunity to capture maximum energy efficiency, meet PA, and indeed, our state ZNE and GHG reduction goals, and create highly visible centers of resilience in our local school communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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Principal, Greenbank Associates

and



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Executive Director
School Energy Coalition