

## **Background on the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program**

Assembly Bill 118 (Nunez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007), created the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. The statute, subsequently amended by AB 109 (Nunez, Chapter 313, Statutes of 2008), authorizes the Energy Commission to develop and deploy alternative and renewable fuels and advanced transportation technologies to help attain the state's climate change policies. The Energy Commission has an annual program budget of approximately \$100 million to support projects that:

- Develop and improve alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels;
- Optimize alternative and renewable fuels for existing and developing engine technologies;
- Produce alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels in California;
- Decrease, on a full fuel cycle basis, the overall impact and carbon footprint of alternative and renewable fuels and increase sustainability;
- Expand fuel infrastructure, fueling stations, and equipment;
- Improve light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicle technologies;
- Retrofit medium- and heavy-duty on-road and non-road vehicle fleets;
- Expand infrastructure connected with existing fleets, public transit, and transportation corridors; and
- Establish workforce training programs, conduct public education and promotion, and create technology centers.

The statute also directs the Energy Commission to create an advisory committee to help develop an Investment Plan for each annual investment cycle. The Investment Plan will establish priorities and opportunities for the Program, and describe how Program funding will complement existing public and private investments, including existing state programs. On August 11, 2010, the Energy Commission adopted its second Investment Plan, as required by statute. The adopted Investment Plan contains specific recommendations for expending \$108 million appropriated for the third year of the Program (Fiscal Year 2010-2011). The Investment Plan must be updated annually. We are seeking Advisory Committee members that will provide technical and policy-level input which will be considered by the Energy Commission, along with public comment, in developing the content of the 2011-2012 Investment Plan.

Advisory Committee meetings will be public and subject to the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. (Gov. Code, § 11120 et seq.)