

ITEM 0

Proposed Agreement between California Energy Commission and Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Title: Silicon Valley Leadership Group Data Center Summit No-cost Co-sponsorship

Amount: \$0.00

Term: 12 months

Contact: Heather Bird

Lead Commissioner Briefing: 8/22/2013

Recommendation

Recommend this no-cost co-sponsorship with Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) for the 2013 SVLG Data Center Summit to be placed on the September 11 consent agenda of the Energy Commission Business Meeting. The purpose of the Summit is to showcase emerging energy efficiency technologies for data centers. The length of this agreement is 12 months.

Issue

The Energy Commission has funded multiple data center demonstration projects with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) through contract 500-10-052. The results from these demonstration projects were highlighted at the SVLG Data Center Summits in 2011 and 2012. As data centers use 3 percent of electrical use in California, identifying energy efficiency strategies and technologies will help reduce energy costs and demand in this sector. Additionally, data center operators need independently verified data to validate the savings from new energy efficiency technologies in order to reduce the implementation risk. Therefore demonstrations are needed to provide this validation.

Once the demonstrations have validated equipment performance and energy savings, the results need to be provided to the data center community. One avenue has been to showcase successful demonstration projects at the annual SVLG Data Center Summit. The Summit organizers have invited the Energy Commission be a no cost co-sponsor. To be a no cost co-sponsor requires Energy Commission approval. Additionally, this co-sponsorship is not on the Energy Commission's list of approved co-sponsorships for FY 2013/14.

Background

The Energy Commission has been a no-cost partner with the SVLG Summit since 2008 and has provided speakers to address the attendees and LBNL has highlighted the results of successful data center projects funded by the Energy Commission. This Summit has been a good opportunity to inform data centers of research results.

This activity is important because of its direct influence in improving the energy efficiency of one of the largest electricity growth areas in the state. The Summit showcases innovative technologies including those resulting from Energy Commission-funded demonstrations, such as through the LBNL agreement or directly funded through the Emerging Technologies Demonstration Grant Program. The Summit helps encourage innovation to improve energy efficiency as well as emphasizing the use of these new demonstrated technologies to control energy use. The data center summit reaches over 500 data center professionals and has influenced many data centers to implement best practices. In addition, the data center Summit brings California's high-tech community together to share energy efficiency information and strengthens California high-tech businesses.

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Proposed Work

This agreement with SVLG is for a no-cost co-sponsorship of the 2013 Data Center Summit. Co-sponsorship offers the following benefits to the Energy Commission:

- The Energy Commission logo can be placed on the website (www.etsummit.com) with links to our programs and projects
- The results of Energy Commission research can be showcased and highlighted
- The Energy Commission will receive ten complimentary tickets for staff to attend the Summit.

Justification and Goals

This project will result in “increased energy efficiency in buildings, appliances, lighting, and other applications beyond applicable standards, and that benefit electric utility customers” (Public Resources Code 25620.1. (b)(2)), (Chapter 512, Statutes of 2006)).

This will be accomplished by: Providing technology transfer opportunities for Energy Commission research projects.

Benefits to California

The Summit provides an ideal opportunity for the Energy Commission to highlight its successful emerging technologies for data centers, thus facilitating their commercialization and marketability. These new technologies will save California ratepayer’s money by increasing energy efficiency of datacenters while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Summit also provides the opportunity to identify research needs of the data center industry that can be considered in future research initiatives and solicitations. Addressing these research needs will further result in additional energy reductions for this industry in the future.