California, Netherlands Province Sign Agreement to Collaborate on Innovative Transportation Energy Projects

SACRAMENTO – The California Energy Commission and the Province of Noord-Holland of the Netherlands signed an agreement today to exchange information and collaborate on innovative transportation energy projects that further their respective 2050 greenhouse gas reduction and clean energy goals.

“This is an exciting partnership with our friends in the Netherlands who, like California, are leading the way in transportation energy policy and technology innovations that are helping to meet our shared climate and clean air goals,” said Janea A. Scott, lead commissioner on transportation for the California Energy Commission.

“California is the e-Mobility leader in the U.S.,” said Vice-Governor Elisabeth Post of the Province of Noord-Holland. “The Province is very pleased to be connected with California and is more than willing to share our leadership experiences with SolaRoad and Smart Mobility.”

E-Mobility refers to electric vehicle technology, while Smart Mobility refers to sustainable and accessible transportation systems.

Peter van Deventer, Diplomatic Liaison and Director of Coast to Coast e-Mobility, on behalf of the Province of Noord-Holland, and Commissioner Scott signed the agreement in a formal ceremony at the Energy Commission’s Business Meeting held in Sacramento.

Both California and the Netherlands, in particular the Province of Noord-Holland, are leaders in transportation technology in their continents.

Under the agreement, the two governments will exchange information and work together on identifying successful and economical models for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including charging solutions for multi-unit dwellings; integrating renewable energy with transportation infrastructure such as SolaRoad, a Netherlands project that will convert sunlight on roads into electricity; and zero-carbon-emission public transportation concepts.

Coast to Coast e-Mobility is a public-private partnership that promotes knowledge and innovation exchange between the U.S. and Dutch governments and universities.

The agreement arose after a meeting between Commissioner Scott and Vice-Governor Post held in October 2014.

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About the California Energy Commission
The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency. The agency was established by the California Legislature through the Warren-Alquist Act in 1974. It has seven core responsibilities: advancing state energy policy,
encouraging energy efficiency, certifying thermal power plants, investing in energy innovation, developing renewable energy, transforming transportation, and preparing for energy emergencies.

About the Province of Noord-Holland
The Province of Noord-Holland is one of the twelve provinces that make up the Netherlands, in economic facts and figures the most vital part of the Dutch economy. It is the home to 51 municipalities, among them the capital of the Netherlands, Amsterdam, 2.6 million inhabitants, 188,000 national and 2,800 international businesses, two universities, a European top-5 airport (Schiphol), three multidisciplinary sea harbors, many well-known tourist attractions and a rich cultural life. The provincial government oversees the province of Noord-Holland and has its seat in Haarlem, which is also the capital of the province. Like the national Government and the local councils, the province is responsible for a number of tasks concerning, for example, housing, economics, agriculture, recreation and the environment. The province has its own Provincial Executive, which is elected by the people every four years.