



August 16, 2012

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 12-EPIC-01  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

California Energy Commission <b>DOCKETED</b> <b>12-EPIC-1</b>
TN # 66717 AUG 16 2012

Sent via Electronic Mail - [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov)

**RE: COMMENT ON EPIC, DECISION 12-EPIC-01**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The City of San Jose would like to voice its support for the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program established by Decision 11-12-035, with a purpose to provide public interest investments in applied research and development, technology demonstration and deployment, market support and market facilitation of clean energy technologies and approaches for the benefit of electricity ratepayers of California's three large Investor Owned Utilities. We applaud the CEC's focus across the innovation spectrum, and believe the EPIC Program can accelerate the availability and impact of next generation clean energy technologies in California, and through California's leadership bring important clean energy innovation to the world.

The EPIC Program will be launched at a time when next generation clean energy technologies are critical for California to meet its energy needs for a growing population, while meeting its goals in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The vision to overcome California's energy and sustainability challenge cannot be achieved without partnership amongst local governments, industry, and regional research and development resources that are unique assets to our State. Silicon Valley (and the larger Bay Area) is fortunate to have world class Universities and National Laboratories, an active finance community and an early adopters network helping to bring next generation clean technologies to the marketplace.

San Jose's efforts to achieve its Green Vision for sustainability includes targets for renewable energy use, energy efficiency gains, green building square footage, zero waste goals, and the creation of 25,000 clean tech jobs over a 15-year horizon. In advancement of the City's clean tech strategy, the City adopted a demonstration policy and has conducted various demonstration projects using the City's buildings, land and processes to support early stage companies. The partnerships that the City has forged with a range of national labs, universities, incubators and accelerators coupled with a facility dedicated to demonstration and pilot work for emerging clean

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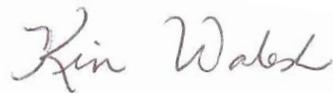
tech companies creates a strong opportunity to invest in a pre-eminent clean tech innovation cluster in Silicon Valley.

San Jose strongly supports investments in business models and partnerships that assure all partners are engaged in a common goal. This will be critical to assure promising pre-commercial technology bridges development and commercialization barriers, and meets the needs of local governments and consumers investing in a sustainable living environment. The City is in the process of launching PROSPECT SV, a clean tech development and commercialization center that will support prototyping, demonstration, testing, and go-to-market support for emerging clean technology startups. PROSPECT SV will provide flexible demonstration space, shared open office space, access to battery, chemistry and prototype labs, conference and training rooms to convene a range of workforce training partners focused on “green jobs” as well as access to a consortium of partners focused on commercialization of emerging technologies. Through PROSPECT SV, the City of San Jose is investing in a unique vision for accelerating clean energy technology innovation in the areas of clean transportation, energy efficiency, storage, smart grid and solar. The City of San Jose has developed partnerships that tie PROSPECT SV with Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Stanford University Office of Technology Licensing, and Cleantech Open among other organizations to support the commercialization of emerging clean energy technologies.

We are pleased to see the framework of the EPIC Program and encourage the California Energy Commission to support investment in business models that bridge R&D, Demonstration and Market Facilitation, support funding of National Labs as a critical element to California’s clean energy technology needs, and that acknowledge that business models that link commercialization partners and assets are critical to cities achieving their sustainability goals, and to California reaching its energy, economic and climate objectives long-term.

Above all, we appreciate the role the California Energy Commission has, and will continue to play in advancing a clean energy future in California and look forward to partnering to support clean energy innovation in the State of California.

Sincerely,



Kim Walesh  
Director of Economic Development  
Chief Strategist