

2012 October 2

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: Docket No. 12-EPIC-01 — Comments from Digital Geographic Research Corporation

To the California Energy Commission:

On behalf of Digital Geographic Research Corporation of Santa Barbara, California, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Draft Triennial Funding Program.

DGRC is a geographic technologies research, development and commercialization firm which has commercialized a range of federally funded technologies, principally involved with GPS systems. We have a strong working relationship with the University of California, Santa Barbara and their Department of Geography, which is one of the preeminent developers of geospatial science, systems and technologies in the world.

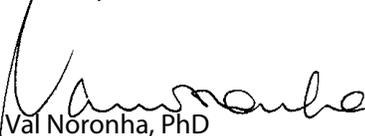
The EPIC program, with its range of research and demonstration projects planned throughout the State, has many components that can be tracked with GPS systems, and linked into a GIS format for strategic monitoring, which I understand the Energy Commission is already considering, based on the comment letter from Forma Companies. DGRC's systems and methodologies can work very effectively with a GIS-based system such as this. Please consider us as a technical resource on this program.

Regarding specific comments on this funding plan:

1. I support the allocation of specific funding for electric truck demonstration projects. My GPS technology, presented under the service mark METRIS, is widely used for tracking port trucks and measuring freight productivity at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. METRIS GPS data, sampled every 10-15 seconds, reveal truck duty cycles, gradients, route choice, fueling and other individual and group behaviors.
2. I support the use of GPS-focused "innovation clusters" throughout the State to monitor and link the renewable energy technology projects funded by the California Energy Commission under the EPIC program. I have collaborated with numerous universities and other research institutions in California and nationwide, on federally funded projects.
3. I support the comments of the California State Lands Commission and the Ocean Protection Council regarding funding for the development of ocean wave and offshore wind resources in California. GPS technologies can be applied to monitor activities associated with offshore marine renewable energy systems.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely


Val Noronha, PhD