

February 23, 2015

Dear Commissioner McAllister:

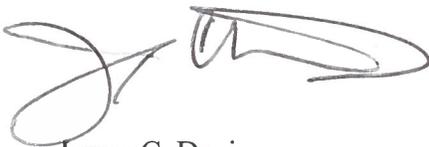
I am writing you today to express my strong support of the Western Cooling Efficiency Center (WCEC) and the CA Lighting Technology Center (CLTC) at the University of California, Davis.

As a founding and former board member of the U.C. Davis Energy Efficiency Center, and the C.E.O. of Smart Wires, I have been involved in all aspects of developing novel and revolutionary energy technologies. It is my personal opinion that the California Energy Commission should continue to fund energy research at all levels, from fundamental science to commercializing efforts. This would include funding research centers such the WCEC and CLTC.

Research centers such as WCEC and CLTC help to recognize the potential of the fundamental scientific research and turn an idea into a prototype, analysis, policy brief, or education outreach. For example, I personally witnessed an idea grow out of the CLTC and become the largest conservation project ever launched in the U.S., to date.<sup>1</sup> Not only have I personally seen the importance of supporting these centers, but also to provide secure multi-year funding. In an economy where the best and brightest are choosing between positions at start-ups or in academic research, these centers need to be able to compete.

In short, these research centers are critical to California meeting its energy policy goals and perfectly in line with the goals of EPIC. They should be supported with multi-year funding.

Sincerely,



James C. Davis  
CEO, Smart Wires Inc.

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<sup>1</sup> San Jose's LED Smart Streetlight conversion program:  
<http://www.piersystem.com/go/doc/1914/2460422/Mayor-Sam-Liccardo-to-Showcase-the-First-Phase-of-More-Than-18-000-Networked-LED-Smart-Streetlights-to-be-Installed-in-San-Jos->