

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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Re: EPIC Implementation Workshop

Dear Commissioner McAllister:

I am writing you to express my strong support of the California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC), University of California, Davis. As I believe you know CLTC is a public-private partnership that has evolved over the last decade, which arose from close collaboration between the lighting industry, California's investor owned utilities and the California Energy Commission to support a broad programmatic research, demonstration, education and training project portfolio.

An important part of CLTC's success arises from the high quality of its fine people and programs, viewed on the world stage. I feel very fortunate to be in a position to comment on this, since I have had professional involvement with CLTC since its inception, and because I bring the perspectives of a career in the lighting industry, as a manufacturing executive, as an engineering physics professor and senior university administrator, and also as a board member of the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) based in Vienna. Put simply, CLTC is good for California, for specific reasons mention below, and more generally because, in my opinion, CLTC is simply the best in the world at what it does. CLTC helps to maintain California's international leadership role in many areas, including the relationship of technology to human wellbeing.

My collaborations with CLTC have involved two different, but related aspects of energy efficiency. The first is core sunlighting, methods for displacing electric lighting with sunlight deep within a building. We have collaborated on demonstration projects, multiple workshops, and development of an IES document to assist designers in this important new area. The second is the field of color rendering, which is critical for increasing a sense of well-being in the built environment while simultaneously encouraging the replacement of incandescent and halogen lamps by LEDs. CLTC has a rare combination of capabilities that make these collaborations work.

Overall, CLTC is very effective in addressing and resolving lighting-related issues that impede progress toward state energy goals. A significant part of CLTC's success is due to the integrated and harmonized activities that bring together education, research and codes and standards activities. This truly is a case for which the whole is much greater than the sum of the parts; I applaud CLTC's world-class integrated approach.

To summarize, I firmly believe that investing in CLTC (and other first-rate research centers using similar models) is a wise and cost-effective way to address long-term energy efficiency issues. I have heard that consideration is being given to attempting to achieve the same effect through individual project solicitations in different activity areas and at different times, and I strongly caution against that – it could never result in the sustained synergistic combination of strengths that has proven to be so valuable at CLTC.

I would be pleased to expand upon these views at your request.

Sincerely,

Professor Lorne A. Whitehead, Ph.D, P.Eng.