CHAMBER

California Energy Commission
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TN 71621
JUL 16 2013

July 16, 2013

Mr. John Heiser
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street (MS-40)
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Dear Mr. Heiser:

The Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, representing local businesses, taxpayers and consumers, is writing to express our support for the Hydrogen Energy California (HECA) project for its potential to create new jobs and make significant contribution to the local tax base.

This project will create 200 permanent jobs once it is operational. In addition to the 200 permanent and skilled jobs created for the operation of the power and manufacturing facilities and the Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) and rail operations, the Project will create hundreds of other jobs in Kern County creating a positive impact on the supply chain and other ancillary industries.

The HECA project is also expected to generate approximately $77.4 million in taxable sales revenue of which an estimated $10.1 million will be retained in Kern County, providing needed revenue for municipal services that the County is struggling to provide at this time. After construction is complete, additional sales tax revenues will continue as materials are purchased during operation.

The project carries additional positive benefits, specifically in the efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions--primarily carbon dioxide-by removing thousands of tons of the gas and injecting it deep underground. The project anticipates a remaining 300 MW of power to be exported to California's energy grid which will allow us to stop relying on imported power. This will help California remain on the forefront of clean energy technology, while providing essential, reliable, low-carbon electricity and fertilizer to local markets

Because of its positive economic impact the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce representing 1,300 member businesses supports the HECA project. In times of economic challenge this project will help business development and economic growth not just in Kern County but throughout California. We encourage the county of Kern to foster this opportunity for economic growth.

Sincerely,

Cynthia D. Pollard
President/CEO

Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce
Your Partner in Business
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