



**California Energy Commission  
April 10, 2025 Business Meeting  
Backup Materials for CALSTART, Inc.**

The following backup materials for the above-referenced agenda item are available in this PDF packet as listed below:

1. Proposed Resolution
2. Grant Amendment Request Form
3. Scope of Work

[PROPOSED]

RESOLUTION NO: 25-0410-03b

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**STATE ENERGY RESOURCES**  
**CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION: CALSTART, Inc.**

**RESOLVED**, that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (CEC) adopts the staff CEQA findings contained in the Agreement or Amendment Request Form (as applicable); and

**RESOLVED**, that the CEC approves amendment 1 to agreement ZVI-22-035 with CALSTART, Inc. to increase the agreement's contingent spending authority to a new total of up to \$84,000,000; increase the current agreement amount to \$61,441,997; modify the terms and conditions. Additional funding, up to the \$84,000,000 total, will require approval from the Executive Director of the CEC through an amendment. This amendment will expand funding available for the "PowerForward: ZEV Battery Manufacturing Block Grant Program." The purpose of this block grant is to fund projects that will promote in-state battery manufacturing for zero-emission vehicles and related infrastructure; and

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to the requirements of Agreement ZVI-22-035, CALSTART cannot execute sub-grants prior to CEC approving the sub-grants and making CEQA findings related to the sub-grants at a future CEC Business Meeting; and

**RESOLVED**, AB 178 (2022) authorized the CEC to administer funds, which in whole or in part make up the funds in this Agreement, in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44272. Under the authority in Health and Safety Code section 44272(e), the CEC delegates to the Executive Director or their designee the full authority allowed to approve amendments to this Agreement; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director or their designee shall execute the same on behalf of the CEC.

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CEC held on April 10, 2025.

AYE:  
NAY:

ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

Dated:

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Kristine Banaag  
Secretariat



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**GRANT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (GARF)**

CEC-277 (Revised 01/2024)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Original Agreement # ZVI-22-035 Amendment # 1

Division	Agreement Manager:	MS-	Phone
Fuels and Transportation	Taiying Zhang	27	916-258-2941

Recipient's Legal Name	Federal ID #
CALSTART, Inc.	95-4375022

Revisions: (check all that apply)	Additional Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Term Extension New End Date:    /    /	Include revised schedule and complete items A, B, C, & F below.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Augmentation Amendment Amount: <b>\$36,441,997</b>	Include revised budget and complete items A, B, C, D, & F below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Reallocation	Include revised budget and complete items A, B, C, & F below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Scope of Work Revision	Include revised scope of work and complete items A, B, C, E, & F below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Change in Project Location or Demonstration Site	Include revised scope of work and complete items A, B, C, E, & F below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Novation/Name Change of Prime Recipient	Include novation documentation and complete items A, B, C, & F below.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terms and Conditions Modification	Include applicable exhibits with bold/underline/ strikeout and complete items A, B, C, & F below.

**A) Business Meeting Information****Business Meeting approval is not required for the following types of Agreements:**☐ Minor amendments delegated to Executive Director per December 2013 ResolutionProposed Business Meeting Date 4 / 10 / 2025 ☒ Consent ☐ Discussion

Business Meeting Presenter Taiying Zhang Time Needed: 0 minutes

Please select one list serve. Clean Transportation Program

**Agenda Item Subject and Description:**

CALSTART, Inc. Proposed resolution approving amendment 1 to agreement ZVI-22-035 with CALSTART, Inc. to increase the agreement's contingent spending authority to a new total of up to \$84,000,000; increase the current agreement amount to \$61,441,997; modify the terms and conditions; and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Additional funding, up to the \$84,000,000 total, will require approval from the Executive Director of the CEC through an amendment. This amendment will expand funding available for the "PowerForward: ZEV Battery Manufacturing Block Grant Program." The purpose of this block grant is to fund projects that will promote in-state battery manufacturing for zero-emission vehicles and related infrastructure. (General Fund Funding) Contact: Taiying Zhang.



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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

**B) List all subcontractors (major and minor) and equipment vendors:** (attach additional sheets as necessary)

<b>Legal Company Name:</b>	<b>Budget</b>
California Clean Energy Fund (dba New Energy Nexus)	\$ 650,000
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	\$ 75,000
Plaintech Solutions Inc.	\$ 155,000
YUNEV, LLC	\$ 100,000

**C) List all key partners:** (attach additional sheets as necessary)

<b>Legal Company Name:</b>
No key partners to report

**D) Budget Information** (only include amendment amount information)

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Funding Year of Appropriation</b>	<b>Budget List Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
General Fund	2022-23	601.129MGB	\$36,441,997*
			\$
			\$
			\$

R&amp;D Program Area: N/A

TOTAL: \$36,441,997

Explanation for "Other" selection N/A

Federal Agreement #: N/A

\*Budget Act of 2022 (Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022) language (SEC. 78. Item 3360-101-0001, Provision 5 (a)) allows the CEC to add funds to existing competitively awarded agreements if the existing competitive agreements are consistent with the use of funds defined in the provision/section.

**E) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance**

## 1. Is Agreement considered a "Project" under CEQA?

☒ Yes (skip to question 2)    ☐ No (complete the following (PRC 21065 and 14 CCR 15378)):

Explain why Agreement is not considered a "Project":

Agreement will not cause direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment because

## 2. If Agreement is considered a "Project" under CEQA:

a) ☒ Agreement **IS** exempt.☐ Statutory Exemption. List PRC and/or CCR section number:☐ Categorical Exemption. List CCR section number:

**GRANT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (GARF)**

☒ Common Sense Exemption. 14 CCR 15061 (b) (3) Explain reason why Agreement is exempt under the above section:

This agreement will not cause a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment because this project only involves desk work and planning activities. This Agreement was originally approved by the Energy Commission at its April 2023 business meeting. At that meeting the Commission found the Agreement exempt from CEQA under the "common sense exemption" in 14 CCR 15061 (b)(3) because the project only involved desk work and meetings. This amendment adds funding to the Agreement and modifies some terms and conditions. These changes do not impact the finding that this Agreement is exempt under the common sense exemption because the project is still limited to only desk work/planning activities and meetings. The Agreement recipient/block grant administrator CALSTART, Inc. has proposed sub-grant award projects (and will propose additional sub-grant award projects in the future) that will promote in-state battery manufacturing for zero-emission vehicles and related infrastructure; however, those projects will be considered by the Commission at a future CEC business meeting, and the Commission will perform CEQA compliance for those awards at that time. The Agreement with CALSTART states the CALSTART does not have authority to enter into agreements or issue grant funds to the proposed sub-grantees until CEQA compliance by the Commission is complete.

- b) ☐ Agreement **IS NOT** exempt. (consult with the legal office to determine next steps)

Check all that apply

- ☐ Initial Study  
☐ Negative Declaration  
☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration  
☐ Environmental Impact Report  
☐ Statement of Overriding Considerations

**F) Is this project considered "Infrastructure"?**

No

**G) The following items should be attached to this GARF (as applicable)**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Exhibit A, Scope of Work                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 2. Exhibit B, Budget Detail                         | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached |
| 3. CEQA Documentation                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 4. Novation Documentation                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 5. CEC 105, Questionnaire for Identifying Conflicts |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached |

**Taiying Zhang**  
**Agreement Manager**

**3/3/2025**  
**Date**



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**GRANT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (GARF)**  
CEC-277 (Revised 01/2024)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

**Charles Smith** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Office Manager**

**3/5/2025** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Melanie Vail** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy Director**

**3/6/2025** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**