



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

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Ms. Marisa Laderach
Mr. Roland Ok
Clean Cities Co-Directors
Southern California Clean Cities Coalition
Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Marisa,

The U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office would like to thank the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition for conducting a very informative and compelling briefing for our Clean Cities leadership team via webinar on August 14, 2023. We are pleased to inform you that the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition's request for re-designation has been approved (effective date August 14, 2023). This re-designation is valid for a period of five years, or until notified otherwise. Please remember that to remain in good standing, your coalition must remain actively engaged in stakeholder support activities and other important duties as outlined in the attached *Active and Effective Requirements* for Clean Cities coalitions.

As demonstrated in the webinar, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has shown leadership in coordinating regional transportation efforts and promoting clean transportation technologies in Southern California. We are grateful for the support SCAG has provided as a host organization for the Clean Cities coalition, and for including Clean Cities as a program in its April 6, 2023, Clean Transportation Technology Policy and Resolution.

We commend the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition for regularly sharing its policy expertise by collaborating with other Clean Cities coalitions in the region, especially Long Beach Clean Cities and Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition. We also appreciated the strong showing of support from Mayors and other agency officials at your re-designation webinar.

In assessing the coalition's effectiveness, we conducted telephone interviews prior to the webinar with multiple stakeholders. They all found value in SCAG's EV charging planning study and its review of municipal residential building codes and assistance with site assessments. They praised SCAG's webinars designed to assist cities with permitting for electric vehicle charging stations and see SCAG as an important funding partner.

Based on the stakeholder responses and the information presented in the webinar, we believe that the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition can have a significant impact on improving transportation energy efficiency and advancing affordable domestic transportation fuels and technologies throughout the region in the future.

To ensure the continuing success of the coalition, we present the following suggestions for actions to take during the coming year:

- Continue to work with Jannet Malig of Long Beach Clean Cities to expand on existing workforce development programs in the region related to clean transportation, and specifically electrification. SCAG can play a true leadership role in this area, with its extensive network of local government connections.
- Marcy Rood of Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) will reach out to you regarding including a presentation on some of their tools such as AFLEET and the Idle Reduction Toolbox in an upcoming Toolbox Tuesday webinar. If you wish to contact Marcy directly, she can be reached at mrood@anl.gov or (217) 413-8446. We also encourage you to attend the monthly Clean Cities Ports Working Group calls, spearheaded by ANL. The Working Group could benefit from SCAG's experience with the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.
- Several stakeholders noted the challenge of introducing clean transportation technologies to small owner-operators of drayage trucks due to a lack of incentives, and the fact that many owner-operators are lower income. We encourage Southern California Clean Cities to work with the other Clean Cities coalitions in California as well as state agencies such as the California Air Resources Board to bring this issue to the forefront. Transitional fuels such as renewable diesel could potentially play an important role in addressing issues related to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions in this segment, in the absence of needed incentives.
- One stakeholder suggested that SCAG increase its engagement with utilities and hydrogen energy suppliers, to ensure that adequate charging and fueling infrastructure will be available for the anticipated increase in the number of Zero Emission Vehicles in the region over the next decade.
- Hybrid-electric vehicles (HEVs) can fit the needs of many local government fleets while providing economic and emissions benefits, especially in areas where all-electric vehicles may be a longer-term project. We encourage you to work with state and local government procurement agencies in the region to ensure that a wide range of HEVs are available for purchase on state government contracts.
- In your Clean Cities outreach efforts, be sure to include stakeholders in Imperial and San Bernardino Counties. Work to articulate the value Clean Cities can bring to fleet operators in all the counties represented by SCAG.

Congratulations on the good work your office has done with the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Clean Cities.

Sincerely,



Mark S. Smith
Technology Integration Program Manager

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