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May 11, 2020

The Honorable Senator Ben Hueso
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1352 – Gas corporations: renewable gas procurement. – CHBC Support

Dear Senator Hueso:

The California Hydrogen Business Council¹ (CHBC) is proud to support SB 1352, which would establish a renewable gas standard (RGS) by 2030 and help drive the market development for renewable gas, including hydrogen.

Renewable hydrogen is a key enabler of California’s ambitious climate, air quality, clean energy, equity and resilience goals. Emitting zero greenhouse gases over its lifecycle in any use case, renewable hydrogen will be necessary to implement state targets to decarbonize energy across sectors, especially in hard to abate transportation, industry, electricity generation, and building energy applications.

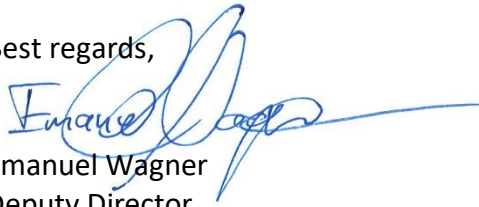
When used in fuel cells, renewable hydrogen also emits zero criteria air pollutants over its lifecycle, thereby eliminating public health threats from sources including cars, medium and heavy duty vehicles, and multi-day backup generators. This has never been more relevant, as COVID-19 disproportionately ravages communities that suffer from air pollution, and as wildfires demand long duration onsite and microgrid power generation. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles furthermore help ensure the transition to zero emissions vehicles is equitable, since it a more convenient option for many low income Californians, many if not most of whom cannot easily plug in at home.

¹ The CHBC is comprised of over 100 companies and agencies involved in the business of hydrogen. Our mission is to advance the commercialization of hydrogen in the energy sector, including transportation, goods movement, and stationary power systems to reduce emissions and dependence on oil. The views expressed in these comments are those of the CHBC, and do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the individual CHBC member companies. Members are listed here: www.californiahydrogen.org/aboutus/chbc-members/

By unleashing renewable gas market development in California, your bill also supports job retention in the gas sector, as the gas system's massive workforce repurposes their skills to implement the transition to renewable gas, and also the creation of new jobs along the renewable gas supply chain. For example, numerous people will need to go to work to build electrolyzers and the renewable electricity sources to power them.

The CHBC appreciates your effort to introduce this important piece of legislation and stands ready to help in any way we can.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emanuel Wagner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Emanuel Wagner
Deputy Director
California Hydrogen Business Council