California Energy Commission
1516 9th St, Sacramento, CA 95814

May 26, 2017

RE: Agenda Request for the Joint Agency Workshop on SB 1383
Scheduled for June 27, 2017

The California Hydrogen Business Council \(^1\) is comprised of over 100 companies, agencies and individuals 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 vision of the CHBC is to reinforce California’s position as the most advanced clean energy state in the nation, expanding the sustainable use of its precious natural and renewable resources and providing clean air to its citizens, by adopting hydrogen and fuel cell technologies in transportation, power and goods movement markets.

The CHBC writes to request that a discussion of renewable hydrogen be included at the upcoming Joint Agency Workshop on SB 1383. CHBC members appreciated the opportunity to weigh in on the value of renewable hydrogen in the context of wind and solar integration at the May 12 workshop on this topic, and believe it is also important to discuss renewable hydrogen in the context of new state law on short-lived climate pollutants, SB 1383 (Lara), which is the scope of the June 27 workshop.

In SB 1383, the legislature explicitly directed the Energy Commission to look at renewable gas, and specifically rejected language last year that limited the scope of the renewable gas review to biomethane and biogas only. In fact, both houses of the
legislature and the Governor's office understood and supported inclusion of the term "renewable gas" into SB 1383 in the last round of amendments to include agency consideration of electrolyzer produced hydrogen.

CHBC recommends that questions at the workshop regarding renewable hydrogen include:

- What is the definition of renewable gas?
- How can the state develop incentives and programs to expand the use of renewable gas and reduce use of conventional natural gas across all energy sectors?
- What metric should the state use to promote renewable gas?
  - GHG reductions or progress toward statewide climate goals?
  - Cost?
  - Other environmental co-benefits?
  - Benefits to disproportionately impacted communities?
  - Opportunities for higher utilization of wind and solar generation?
  - In-state project developments and job creation?
- What is the status of renewable hydrogen development?
- What is the downward cost trajectory as it scales?
- What is the status of its commercial readiness and end use applications today?
- How is renewable hydrogen being used in other regions today, and what are future integration plans (e.g., EU, Canada)?

Sincerely,

Emanuel Wagner | Assistant Director
California Hydrogen Business Council