

October 24, 2023

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Emily Dilger, PhD Chief Executive Officer California Air Resources Board 1001 I St. Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Electrify America's Cycle 4 Investment Plan

Dear California Air Resources Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of Ignited in support of Electrify America's Cycle 4 California ZEV Investment Plan. This significant, \$200 million investment in California over 30 months will bring the state closer to achieving its zero emission vehicle (ZEV) deployment and emissions reduction goals to combat climate change and improve air quality by transitioning to zero emission transportation.

Ignited is on a mission to empower educators with industry connections so they can create cutting-edge curriculum that transforms their students' career trajectories. We see careers in electric transportation as a growing opportunity that our future workforce needs to prepare for, to meet tomorrow's industry needs. Our goal is to arm our teachers with the models and practices they need to best equip students for future success.

This is the fourth and final investment cycle by Electrify America as part of its initial \$800 million commitment over 10 years to accelerate transportation electrification in California. The Cycle 4 ZEV Investment Plan will continue to advance ZEV adoption in California by further building out public ultra-fast charging infrastructure in metropolitan areas and along highway corridors, and continuing to invest in brand neutral education and awareness efforts, including supporting and sponsoring ZEV education, STEM programing and workforce development training. To date, Electrify America has invested \$9 million in community-based organizations and nearly \$3 million in STEM and workforce development programs over Cycles 1-3.

Importantly, the plan continues Electrify America's commitment to providing benefit through its investments to rural, disadvantaged, and low income communities, to ensure that all communities can access charging and participate in the transition to electric vehicles. Currently, over 50% of Electrify America's public ultra-fast charging stations at various stages of development are in disadvantaged or low-income communities, exceeding the company's 35% target.



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Emily Dilger, PhD Chief Executive Officer As a nonprofit, Ignited is always interested in collaborating with other leaders in key technology areas to direct funds towards STEM education and our future workforce readiness. It is essential for us to prepare our students with the skill sets they will need to prepare for and choose the dynamically changing career needs that the future requires.

Electrify America's investments are also creating economic opportunity for many stakeholders. For example, responding vendors to Electrify America's 2022 year-end survey identified nearly 4,000 workers employed by themselves and subcontractors that worked on Electrify America projects from July to December 2022, including 914 workers in California. Of these workers, vendors reported that 32% lived in low-income and disadvantaged communities, while vendors reported that approximately 1% of workers self-identified as veterans. Survey respondents also indicated that nearly 600 jobs were created or sustained because of work with Electrify America, roughly 50% of which were employees and contractors living and working in California.¹

We respectfully urge you to find that Electrify America's Cycle 4 California ZEV Investment Plan is consistent with requirements at your December Board meeting, in order to keep California on the forefront as a leader in the fight against climate change.

Respectfully,

Emily Dilger, PhD

Chief Executive Officer

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