

2/20/2025

Jack Kitowski, Division Chief, Mobile Source Control Division
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Kitowski,

As program administrator for California's Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP), Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) would like to express our sincere appreciation to both the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and Crowe for their collaborative work to complete this program review.

Since CVRP's inception in 2009, CARB and CSE have worked together to issue almost 600,000 rebates totaling more than \$1.5 billion, with more than \$400 million in rebates going to low- to moderate-income consumers.

CSE appreciates that Crowe's report noted the many exceptional practices that went beyond the basic requirements for implementing an incentive program, including:

- Demonstrating a commitment to reducing emissions throughout California by issuing almost 600,000 rebates for zero-emission vehicles.
- Adapting rapidly to external factors, such as changing marketing and outreach tactics during COVID.
- Creating special application procedures to address unique scenarios for Tesla's non-traditional online sales path and custom-build model options.
- Establishing and nurturing partnerships with community-based organizations to engage people in low-income and disadvantaged communities across the state.
- Advocating for a higher rebate of \$7,500, to better implement new legislative mandates in 2016 requiring that increased rebates be available to disadvantaged communities.

The program review final report also includes Crowe's findings and suggestions for improvement. Regarding the cybersecurity finding, CSE agrees that cybersecurity is a cornerstone of any incentive program and has robust protections to safeguard applicants' personal data, including role-based security, audits and penetration testing, and incident response. CSE also proactively adapts to the evolving cybersecurity landscape. We accept Crowe's suggestions and will assess our security program to determine if further improvements should be made.

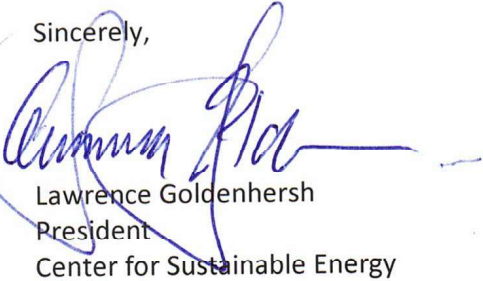
As a nonprofit, mission-driven organization, CSE is honored to have administered the nation's largest, longest-running EV incentive program. This landmark program kick-started a then-unfamiliar technology and played a substantial role in driving market adoption of EVs in California – where today one in every

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four new cars sold is an EV. CVRP has become a model for other states that have since adopted similar EV incentive programs.

CSE again wishes to express our deep appreciation to CARB for the agency's partnership over the years. We look forward to collaborating in the future on efforts to reduce harmful air pollutants and ensure sustainable, equitable and resilient communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lawrence Goldenhersh", is written over a circular blue stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lawrence Goldenhersh
President
Center for Sustainable Energy