



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION



March 28, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear EPA Team:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is pleased to offer this letter of support for Blue Lake Rancheria's application in response to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09). Blue Lake Rancheria's commitment to sustainable energy solutions aligns with our mission to promote clean energy adoption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The CEC is committed to providing 100 percent of electricity retail sales from renewable and zero-carbon resources by 2045 and ensuring that the benefits of reliable, cleaner, and more efficient energy are shared by all. The Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program in the Energy Research and Development Division funds clean energy projects that support California's energy policy goals to explore advancement of all forms of clean, reliable energy, including transportation electrification. CEC has partnered with the Blue Lake Rancheria on several energy resilience related projects in the past, including the Blue Lake Rancheria renewable-based microgrid project funded under the EPIC Program (CEC grant #EPC-14-054). The project was highlighted recently in the 2022 EPIC Annual Report for successfully islanding from the grid during an earthquake.

CEC supports the goals of this proposal to acquire electric vehicle (EV) trucks, solar carports, and direct current fast charging stations to enhance the transportation infrastructure for the local community and broader region. Blue Lake Rancheria's project directly addresses a growing need for additional fast chargers throughout California to meet the state's zero-emission vehicle adoption goals. By investing in EV technology, solar energy, and efficient charging infrastructure, Blue Lake Rancheria is not only benefitting its own community but also setting an inspiring example for others. The integration of solar carports and fast charging stations will contribute to a cleaner environment, reduced dependence on fossil fuels, and improved air quality.

We recognize the pivotal role that tribal communities play in shaping California's energy landscape. Blue Lake Rancheria's vision and dedication to sustainability

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are commendable, and we are confident that their proposal will have a positive impact on both the local community and the broader region.

The goals of the proposed project are consistent with California's clean energy goals. We appreciate the opportunity to support Blue Lake Rancheria's grant proposal, and we look forward to the successful implementation of this project and stand ready to assist where possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Chen, at Peter.Chen@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hochschild", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Hochschild

Chair

California Energy Commission