

April 1, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for the Port of Oakland's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Proposal

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) to express our support for *Transforming Power: Advancing Zero Emission Cargo Handling Equipment with Infrastructure at the Port of Oakland*. Also, we appreciate the inclusion of significant funding to support the efforts of the community partners to engage disadvantaged residents and local businesses to better understand the value of these infrastructure investments.

As one of the largest direct and indirect contributors to emissions in the Bay Area, the Port of Oakland has been a member of the West Oakland Community Action Plan Steering Committee since its inception. It therefore helped develop the first AB 617 Community Action Plan certified by the State of California and Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors (dubbed "Owning Our Air"), which identified 89 strategies to improve air quality and reduce environmental injustice in West Oakland. Of these 89 strategies, at least 11 require leadership or co-leadership by the Port for successful implementation – and several of these could be directly addressed through this Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program. As co-leads of the AB 617 Steering Committee, the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) supports the Port's proposal and, simultaneously, suggests that if the EPA awards this funding to the Port of Oakland, it ensures that the roll-out of the project is coordinated with the AB 617 implementation, and funding aligns with the relevant Strategies.

In addition, we request that EPA helps confirm that the Port will comply with Title VI commitments and that WOEIP and other community members should have decision-making capabilities on any third party community engagement activities, including the hiring of any community engagement liaisons or facilitators. WOEIP, EarthJustice, and other members of the Community Electrification Committee should be fairly compensated for any time spent helping the Port successfully implement this Program in the future, as alluded to in the "Task 2.0 – Stakeholder Engagement" section of the Port's proposal. The parties signing this Letter of Support, many of whom are West Oakland residents, need to be included as partners to ensure that environmental justice is being carried out in collaboration with the Port of Oakland and other government agencies and stakeholders.

Please contact me if you have any questions about our experience working with the Port of Oakland.

Sincerely,



Brian Beveridge
Co-Director, WOEIP