

**Santa Barbara County
Air Pollution Control District**

Agenda Date: May 15, 2014
Agenda Placement: Admin.
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No

Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Dave Van Mullem, Air Pollution Control Officer

CONTACT: Molly Pearson, Community Programs Supervisor, 961-8838

SUBJECT: California Energy Commission Grant to Central Coast – Charge Ahead Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the California Energy Commission grant award to the Central Coast – Charge Ahead Project (CC-CAP) for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

BACKGROUND:

The District has participated in the Plug-in Central Coast initiative since it began in 2011 as the regional plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) coordinating council for Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties. The planning process for Plug In Central Coast was initiated by the joint efforts of C5 – the Clean Cities Coalition of the Central Coast, the Community Environmental Council of Santa Barbara, and the Air Pollution Control Districts of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. Key leaders from these organizations formed the Steering Committee of Plug In Central Coast and obtained grants for tri-county PEV planning from the U.S. Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission.

District staff provided in-kind labor to develop and workshop the Plug In Central Coast Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan, available on our website at www.ourair.org/sbc/plugincentralcoast.htm.

DISCUSSION:

In late 2013, the California Energy Commission issued a grant solicitation for EV charging infrastructure. This grant solicitation was an offer to fund electric vehicle charging infrastructure to support growth of electric vehicles as a conventional method of transportation and adoption of plug-in electric vehicles over a wide range of California's population and socio-economic classes. A total of \$6.0 million were made available through the grant solicitation. Applications were to be evaluated and scored by an Evaluation Committee of the Energy Commission based

on the responses to the information requested in the solicitation. A minimum score of 70% was required for an application to be eligible for funding, and funding awards would be recommended beginning with the highest ranked project.

In February 2014, the Plug In Central Coast Steering Committee and the EV Communities Alliance worked with local jurisdictions, equipment suppliers and installation contractors to submit a response to the grant solicitation in order to fund the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure on the Central Coast. The requested amount was \$498,475.

In April 2014, we received the attached Notice of Proposed Award showing that the California Energy Commission granted the full requested amount to the Central Coast – Charge Ahead Project, or CC-CAP. As shown in the attachment, with a score of 86.7%, the project (Proposal Number 46) received one of the highest scores from the Energy Commission.

The success of the Central Coast – Charge Ahead Project grant application speaks to the effectiveness of community partnerships and collaboration. The infrastructure created through these grant funds will enhance the program already operating in Santa Barbara County through the District's Electric Vehicle Charging Station Infrastructure Program, which currently provides grants to public entities in Santa Barbara County for EV charging stations.

Going forward, the District will continue to stay involved with efforts to improve EV charging infrastructure in the tri-counties area.

ATTACHMENT:

California Energy Commission Notice of Proposed Award