October 25, 2013

Dr. Timothy E. Lipman
Co-Director, Transportation Sustainability Research Center
University of California - Berkeley
2150 Allston Way, Suite 280
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Dr. Lipman,

I am writing on behalf of the North State Super Region (NSSR), a partnership representing the sixteen northern California Regional Transportation Planning Agencies. We represent 26% of California’s total land area that contains 37% of California’s state and federal roads. The primary focus of the NSSR is to support economic development, access, and efficient goods movement through strategic transportation network investments.

The NSSR would like to express our support for the University of California (UC) Berkeley-led proposal for a “Center for Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicle Technology” based on a solicitation recently issued by the California Energy Commission (CEC).

As we understand it, the new “Northern California Center for Alternative Transportation Fuels and Advanced Vehicle Technology” (North CAT) would be operated as a partnership between UC Berkeley’s Transportation Sustainability Research Center (TSRC) and Technology Transfer Program (TTP), the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Humboldt State University, the Center for Transportation and the Environment, and ProspectSV, with additional key participation from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Bay Area Climate Collaborative (BACC), regional associations to promote clean fuel and electric-drive vehicles, local municipalities, and private sector companies.

As an alliance of largely rural counties, we are particularly pleased to support the North CAT team as it has included a project partner from the rural North with a firsthand understanding of the unique opportunities and challenges faced by our constituency in advancing alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate on innovative transportation technologies in the region with North CAT.

Overall we believe that the proposed team for the CEC PON Solicitation 13-605 has the technical expertise, demonstrated experience, and organizational network to effectively advance the tasks demanded for the project. We look forward to collaborating with you in helping to advance leading edge transportation demonstrations and commercialization to meet the economic development needs and improve the environmental stewardship of our communities.

Sincerely,

Marcella Clem, Chair
North State Super Region