



Employment Training Panel

Memorandum

To: ETP Policy Committee
Gretchen Newsom, Chairperson
Rebecca Bettencourt, Member
Rick Smiles, Member

Date: October 26,
2023

CC: Executive Staff
Peter Cooper, Executive Director
Jaime Gutierrez, Chief Deputy Director

From: Robert Meyer, Director of Economic Development

Subject: Interagency Agreement with California Energy Commission

I. Brief Issue Statement:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has invited the Employment Training Panel (ETP) to enter into an Interagency Agreement (IA) to administer \$3.0M in CEC Clean Transportation Program funding to provide Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) training leading to certification of state certified electricians. The intent is to address the shortage of EVITP certified electricians statewide. A secondary goal of the IA will focus on increasing the diversity of EVITP certified electricians by ensuring that a minimum of 50% of the funds are invested in employers/trainees located in rural/non-urban, disadvantaged and low-income communities (DACs/LICs).

II. Background Information:

Assembly Bill 841 (Ting 2020) set new requirements for chargers installed with public funds. With limited exceptions, the law requires PEV chargers and equipment be installed by a contractor with an appropriate license classification, as determined by the Contractors' State License Board, in good standing, with at least one electrician on each crew at all times during work hours who holds an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) certification. ETP is planning to enter into an interagency agreement with the California Energy Commission (CEC) to increase the number of EVITP-certified electricians within California.

The proposed IA will define an alternatively funded program within ETP which will use the standard ETP core program pay-for-performance contract format. Standard contractor eligibility criteria will be used for the program.

Program Design

Two important areas of focus will be limiting the occupations eligible to participate and training topics that can be included. Eligible trainees will be limited to state-certified electricians. Eligible training will include exclusively EVITP certification, and if desired by the contractor, OSHA 10/30, and training on local charging permitting and incentives.

Trainees under this program will use Standard Retrainee wages to ensure maximum eligibility of participants, although post training minimum wage is not projected to be a barrier. Current program project caps may be used or elevated. Contractors may hold concurrent ETP contracts with good performance histories.

Outreach and Administration

Marketing for the IA will include an emphasis on engagement to organizations, employers and electricians in rural and non-urban areas; DACs/LICs and traditionally-underserved workforce populations. ETP will also establish ongoing partnerships that include but are not limited to EVITP, the Contractors State Licensing Board (CSLB), electrical apprenticeship programs, electrical employers, electric vehicle (EV) charger companies, community colleges, and other stakeholders needed to achieve the training goal.

This will provide \$2.7M in IA funding for ETP contracts that will focus on training state certified electricians in the EVITP curriculum. In support of this alternatively funded ETP program, ETP will use up to 10% (\$300,000) for marketing, contract development and monitoring and administration.

Timeline

Staff are currently in the review phase of the proposed Scope of Work and will provide feedback to CEC. The Panel will consider the final guidelines and intent to enter into the IA with the CEC at its December 2023 Panel Meeting. The CEC must also approve the scope of work and the Interagency Agreement at its December Business Meeting. The CEC will complete the contract document processes. The Interagency Agreement will need to be approved which may take a few months. ETP will not be able to develop and approve contracts under this IA until it is approved and funding authority established.

It is anticipated that the program will begin in early 2024 and have funding until June 30, 2026.