



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PANEL MEETING**

Employment Training Panel
1100 J Street
Sequoia Conference Room, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
March 26, 2010

PANEL MEMBERS

Barry Broad
Acting Chair

Greg Campbell
Member

Barton Florence
Member

Scott Gordon
Member

Karnig Kazarian
Member

Janine Montoya
Member

Edward Rendon
Member

Janice Roberts
Acting Vice-Chair

Executive Staff

Brian McMahon
Executive Director

Maureen Reilly
General Counsel

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I. PUBLIC PANEL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Janice Roberts, Acting Chair, called the public Panel meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Ms. Roberts announced that a Closed Session would not be held today regarding NUMMI.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present

Janice Roberts
Barton Florence
Edward Rendon
Janine Montoya
Greg Campbell
Karnig Kazarian (arrived after initial roll call)

Members Absent

Barry Broad
Scott Gordon

Executive Staff Present

Brian McMahan, Executive Director
Maureen Reilly, General Counsel

III. AGENDA

ACTION: Mr. Florence moved and Mr. Campbell seconded the motion that the Panel approve the Agenda.

Motion carried, 5 – 0.

IV. MINUTES

ACTION: Mr. Rendon moved and Mr. Florence seconded the motion that the Panel approve the Minutes from the January 29 meeting.

Motion carried, 5 – 0.

V. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brian McMahon, Executive Director, said today there are five projects to be presented to the Panel. These will be the last five to be funded under the Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP), which is a project that ETP has jointly maintained with the California Energy Commission (CEC). He said this program has helped ETP to better understand some of the characteristics of, and the need for training in, the green sector. He thanked the CEC and said ETP is very pleased to have had the opportunity to work with them on this program.

Mr. McMahon said the first proposal to be funded under the High-Wage High-Skill Training (HWST) Initiative would be presented today. He said these are funded from the 15% WIA funds, and they will be targeted toward the projects that came in under the combination of the CEWTP Program and will have a green project focus. He said the combination of these two funding sources for projects in the green initiative will allow ETP to fund the projects more fully. It is expected there will be approximately a 10% reduction for all CEWTP projects and HWST projects.

Mr. McMahon said there is an additional source of funding that is expected to come to ETP from the CEC under the AB118 initiative. He said those program dollars are targeted toward alternative fuel new vehicle technology projects. Staff is working through the finalization of the Interagency Agreement with the CEC, and the initiative must go before the Energy Commission, perhaps at their April or May meeting. Staff will be concurrently working to finalize guidelines, so that potential applicants will have a clear understanding as to the funding parameters. It may be possible to bring a few of those projects to the Panel at the June meeting. It is not expected that we will utilize the entire \$4.5 million available to ETP under that initiative in this fiscal year, so unused funds would be rolled over and made available in the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Relative to the current budget, we continue to see declines in collections in the Employment Training Fund. As more and more employers move into a negative reserve status, they are paying out more in Unemployment Insurance Benefits than what they are collecting. They are exempted from paying into the Employment Training Fund by a provision in the Unemployment Insurance Code. He said this has had a very significant impact on the monies that ETP has available under the core program. He said ETP began the current fiscal year with a September 2009 estimate from EDD which reflected approximately \$67 million in collections, and it is now projected to be closer to \$59 million. The impact for ETP will be that we will have an encumbrance liability that will transfer forward into the next fiscal year. Staff is working with the LWDA and the EDD to consider options to reduce that liability. He said that there will be an encumbrance liability that moves from this fiscal year to the next fiscal year and further stresses available funds in the 2010-11 year. He said there are no core or base program funds available for any projects in the current fiscal year.

Mr. McMahon said with the 2010-11 budget, and what is expected to happen in the new fiscal year, the projections that EDD has just completed for the new year show continued weakness in collections, and the estimate is in the mid-to-low \$50 million range. He said this amount can be impacted by improvements in the overall economy or a decline in the unemployment rate, with more employers moving into positive reserve status. At this point, the projections for the next year are not positive. He said what this means from a budget standpoint, is that

ETP cannot tolerate any transfer of collections to the Department of Social Services through the Legislative Budget Review process this year. The Governor's Budget did not include that transfer, and as indicated before for the first time in many years, the Budget does not include a transfer of ETP funds to the Department of Industrial Relations. ETP is moving into the legislative review process now from a position of some strength due to the Governor's Budget proposal. The first legislative subcommittee review is on April 14, Assembly Subcommittee No. 4 chaired by Assembly Member Furutani. The first Senate Subcommittee Hearing is scheduled for April 29; that subcommittee continues to be chaired by Senator Ducheny, who is knowledgeable relative to the ETP program, and who has been supportive of our budget over the years.

Mr. McMahon said one of the things that we are attempting to do this year is to formalize, target, and strengthen outreach activities, to help support ETP's budget success through legislative review. Last week, ETP conducted two Stakeholder Forums in Sacramento and Southern California. We invited a number of multiple-employer contract partners and consultants to the Forum to discuss our Strategic Plan and areas for program improvement, to make ETP as aggressive and effective as it can be relative to supporting new job creation, and taking unemployed workers and getting them back into the workforce. We also discussed how they could help support ETP's budget through the legislative review process, with key legislators in district offices, and certainly letting legislators from their local areas know that they strongly support ETP's continued funding.

Mr. McMahon said he and Acting Chair Barry Broad are meeting with the chairs of the Budget Subcommittees to ensure that they fully understand where ETP is, relative to its budget. This afternoon, ETP staff is meeting with the consulting staff for Assembly Subcommittee No. 4. One of the most important things that ETP must accomplish through the budget review early stages is to make sure that the budget consultants, legislative analysts, and Department of Finance all fully understand the collections issue in the ETP, and they do not base their decisions on numbers that haven't been adjusted downward.

Mr. McMahon said an issue that arose last week in the Stakeholder Forums was around ETP's project pipeline. He said when the ETP finished funding projects from its core program; there were over 200 applicants that were left either at the pre-application stage or the formal application stage in the pipeline, and unfunded. He said staff is now contacting each of those applicants and trying to determine whether they still have continued interest, and if their curriculum is ready. Staff is trying to characterize some of those projects; determining if some have new-hire components, and looking at priority industries in the pipeline in order to get a good sense as to how many of those 200 applicants are still ready to move forward, and what is the dollar demand. Quantifying the demand in the pipeline will allow us to make decisions about opening up the application process for new applicants that are not in the existing pipeline. I believe one of the key stages will be the May Budget Review on how that looks in terms of trends; that will help give us some indication as to the pressures on the ETP budget through the legislative review process.

Mr. McMahon said another concern is that when ETP is able to again begin to review projects that are in the pipeline, that we do not overwhelm ETP's ability to process a large number of applications. Staff is going to make recommendations to the Panel in terms of a structure or a process for moving a large number of proposals through Panel review. He said staff will

need to come to the Panel with recommendations on caps in limiting project size, the existing application pipeline, and how we approach bringing new proposals into the program in the new year.

Mr. McMahon said he wanted to update the Panel on the Governor's Job Initiative that he discussed at the last Panel meeting. The Governor's \$500 million Job Initiative would allocate \$200 million for training activities and up to \$300 million as an incentive payment to employers that hire a worker that is currently unemployed, goes through ETP training, and is retained for nine months. Since the last Panel meeting, he attended a concept review discussion with the Senate Budget Committee, and a similar concept session with the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4. At both sessions, there was concern expressed by the Committees around the source of funding, a loan from the Disability Insurance Fund that would capitalize the Jobs Initiative. He said there was a general consensus of the committee members that the Jobs Initiative itself is something that is needed in the State, and that there was a general favorable sense by the committee members that ETP has a demonstrated, proven program infrastructure to move training dollars out fairly quickly to employers. He said there is not a hearing date yet set for the Jobs Initiative, now SBX6 15, authored by Senator Maldonado, and he will keep the Panel updated as to the status.

Mr. McMahon said there are a couple of other bills that are of interest to ETP. AB 1804 (Hagman) Employment Training Fund: This is a resurrection of a bill by Assemblyman Hagman. This bill would prohibit the use of ETP funds as a loan to the General Fund, and it would also remove the statutory authorization that currently exists in the UI Code allowing transfers of Employment Training Fund dollars to the Department of Social Services. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Insurance Committee and does not yet have a hearing date.

AB 2437 (Manuel Perez) Community Colleges: Green Technology Training: Workforce Development Strategy: This bill specifically names ETP among a group of other agencies, colleges, and boards to a strategy group that would look at developing a strategic proposal for the use of federal stimulus dollars aimed at workforce development activities in the green sector.

Mr. McMahon said the last bill he wanted to mention is SB 964 (Alquist) Workforce Development Program, High-Speed Rail. This bill mandates that a market assessment of workforce needs be conducted by the Chancellor's Office, and names ETP to an advisory group that would work on the development of curriculum skills identification around the types of occupations and training that would be needed relative to a high-speed rail project.

Mr. McMahon said the Panel received a Legislative Update Memo in their Panel Packets that identifies additional bills and details.

VI. REQUEST MOTION TO DELEGATE IN EVENT OF LOSS OF QUORUM/ACTION

ACTION: Ms. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded the delegation of authority to the Executive Director in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair, for all matters under consideration.

Motion carried, 5 – 0.

Acting Chair Roberts said the Panel may lose a quorum today, based upon projects that may be a conflict of interest.

VII. REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Maureen Reilly, General Counsel, said two projects were approved by the Executive Director in consultation with the Panel Chair pursuant to the Delegation Order approved on March 4, 2010, and these are included in the Panel Packets under the Delegation Order Tab. The two projects that were approved are: 1) Mendocino Solar Service in the amount of \$18,200; and 2) Onni, Inc. dba GreenPlumbers USA in the amount of \$74,904. Mr. McMahon pointed out that the Delegation Order is for projects \$75,000 and below.

David Guzman, Chief of Operations, provided an overview of the Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) projects. He said today there are five proposals for consideration from ETP's partnership with the California Energy Commission (CEC) to provide green job skills and promote the State's green economy. He said the five training proposals amount to \$2,142,100. Mr. Guzman said if the five projects are approved today, along with the seven projects previously approved in January, and the two approved Delegation Order proposals, we will have exhausted the full appropriation of CEWTP funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). If the Panel approves each of the five projects today, the Panel will have approved in total, \$4,923,502 in fourteen projects. Mr. Guzman said as the CEC allocation is \$4.5 million, we are over-subscribed by approximately 10%. Accordingly, all of the CEWTP projects will be reduced from the original requested amount by 10%, funding 90% of the request. The January panel projects were reduced on a provisional basis by 30%. Those projects will be increased up to the 90% level based on the full funding, or the amount of funding available for the CEWTP projects.

Mr. Guzman said in terms of project profile, the projects are exactly the same as in January 2010, and the training is focused on clean green job training. The projects are focused on delivering certificates, or preparing trainees for certification, such as from the California Building Performance Contractors Association, The California Home Energy Efficiency Rating System, and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The Panel has adopted all of the core program requirements with a few exceptions. The primary exceptions are differences in the standards from placement and retention; in particular, what we refer to as "portfolio placement", whereby the contractor may earn 70% of the cost-per-trainee on completion of training. Under the portfolio's method, the contractor will earn the final 30% after placement and completion of that training. The earnings will not be subject to reimbursement or to negative earnings if the placement fails, and portfolio placement will be available for the new-hire and retrainees in this program.

Ms. Roberts asked Mr. Guzman to explain the difference between Tabs #1 through #5, CEWTP proposals and Tab A, the HWST proposal. Mr. Guzman said the HWST training program is funded from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) 15% funds. In terms of the project profile, it is very similar to the CEWTP training program projects. Part of the reason ETP is using the HWST program funding, is that we were over-subscribed in terms of the requests for funding with CEWTP. If we did not have the HWST funding available, the reductions could have been as much as 50%.

VIII. REVIEW AND ACTION ON CEWTP PROPOSALS

Apprentice & Journeymen Training Trust Fund of the Southern California Plumbing & Piping Industry

Wally Aguilar, Manager of the North Hollywood Regional Office, presented a Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) Proposal for Apprentice & Journeymen Training Trust Fund of the Southern California Plumbing & Piping Industry (P&P Trust), in the amount of \$582,290. P&P Trust operates eight training centers for the plumbing and pipefitting industry in Southern California. It was created by unions and contractors in the industry and is governed by a joint labor-management committee. The jurisdiction of the P&P Trust is the same as the jurisdiction of District Council 16 of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada.

Mr. Aguilar introduced Micheal J. Hazard, Executive Director, and Steve Duscha, representing Duscha Advisories.

There were no questions from the Panel.

ACTION: Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Rendon seconded approval of the CEWTP proposal for P&P Trust.

Motion carried, 5 – 0.

Acting Chair Roberts announced that a quorum was temporarily lost, and Panel Member Campbell would return to vote on the remainder of projects after they have been presented.

Santa Monica Community College District

Mr. Aguilar presented a Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) Proposal for Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD), in the amount of \$390,080. SMCCD is a two-year community college accredited by the Western Association Schools and Colleges; it provides academic and career technical education for most of the communities in the greater Los Angeles area. Santa Monica Community College offers over 80 fields of study within its five campus district, offering local businesses customized training programs and workforce development resources. SMCCD opened in 1929 with 153 students; today the college has 29,000 students on five campuses.

Mr. Aguilar introduced Tricia G. Ramos, Dean, Workforce and Economic Development.

Ms. Ramos said that per the ETP 130, at the end of training, students will receive a Certificate of Knowledge from the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). She said this is not quite accurate; the College is NABCEP certified, which is the national standard for photovoltaic training; however, the College does not administer the certification. She said the trainees would have to take the exam administered by NABCEP, and the training is to prepare them to take the exam. She said there is a correction in the small business training; the minimum training is eight hours and they have already spoken with the field office, which will make the correction.

Ms. Montoya asked if there is beginning to be more of a demand for solar panel installation, development, and creation. Ms. Ramos asked if she was referring to a demand for training in these areas. Ms. Montoya answered correct, and asked if it is really expected to be an up-and-coming, thriving industry. Ms. Ramos said according to all workforce projections, yes; in the area of energy efficiency and solar panel installation. However, it is quite dependent on the economy and whether or not homeowners and businesses are going to receive the rebates that were promised to them. So I believe that the training is going to be needed because the country is definitely moving in that direction. She said I believe it will work in tandem with the recovery of the economy, but the workforce is needed. Ms. Montoya said that is what she perceived and said Ms. Ramos did a great job on the company's hand-out materials.

Mr. Rendon asked why the College offers for-credit and not-for-credit classes on the courses for sustainable energy careers. Ms. Ramos said the Office of Workforce and Economic Development is the more professional training for the College, and for-credit is actually the three-unit college unit course training; so they basically offer a seamless transition from the non-credit to the for-credit side of the house. She said there is much more training for the college credit; it is the same type of training, just not as robust.

Voting action was delayed until a quorum was re-established.

California Building Performance Contractors Association

Creighton Chan, Manager of the Foster City Regional Office, presented a Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) Proposal for California Building Performance Contractors Association (CBPCA), in the amount of \$599,940. CBPCA is a non-profit organization providing clean energy training for the construction industry throughout California. This organization provides training in Home Performance with ENERGY STAR (HPwES), Building Performance Institute (BPI), Home Energy Rating System (HERS), and Residential Energy Retrofit Contractor (RERC).

Mr. Chan noted that one aspect of this proposal that is different from a core proposal is that normally there is a range of 24-200 maximum hours; this project will allow a maximum of 24-300 hours, as allowed by the CEWTP guidelines. The reason for the higher number of hours is that the company estimates 10% of their trainees will need to be trained for multiple certifications. Training will include productive lab, green skills, and classroom training, using computer software tailored to the certification programs. Mr. Chan said it was important to mention that the funding will not be provided for the hours spent by a trainee taking an exam for certification. He noted that in its role as a certification entity for HERS training, and oversight of HERS rating, CBPCA must itself be certified by the California Energy Commission (CEC). Review and approval by CEC is expected to be completed shortly.

Mr. Chan introduced Randel Riedel, CBPCA Managing Director and Barbara Hernesman, CBPCA Director of Training and Workforce Development.

Mr. Riedel said they are on CEC's agenda for the April 7 meeting for approval of their HERS certification. He said that the HERS II classification program has not been formally approved by the CEC at this time.

Ms. Roberts asked if the company was funded previously by ETP. Ms. Hernesman said yes. They have a current project with ETP running now, and they received ETP funds last February. Ms. Roberts asked how they are performing in their current project. Ms. Hernesman said they are doing well. She said the obstacles have always been with the small business entrepreneur, to figure out how to fit them into the program; however, because of the need and desire to be a part of the 21st century construction industry, they are saying well look, I am a sole proprietor entity, and I need to move into another entity that will raise myself higher – they are making those leaps and bounds. She said that is who we are; focusing much of the first grant on trying to assist sole proprietors to get into training, and that is going well. Ms. Roberts asked if the proposed project is for a new group of trainees. Ms. Hernesman said yes. She said they have companies such as Beutler Heating & Air; large companies that need this type of training and because of the guidelines of this grant, it opens the door for some of the larger companies that they could not reach before.

Voting action was delayed until a quorum was re-established.

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Mr. Chan presented a Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) Proposal for Chabot Las Positas Community College District (CLP District), in the amount of \$164,650. CLP District serves the San Francisco East Bay Area, particularly southern Alameda County, through its two colleges: Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore. The colleges, both accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), specialize in university transfer, technical training, continuing education, workforce development, and contract education with local businesses. The District serves nearly 24,000 students and is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees elected by the voters of nine communities: Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton, Sunol, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, San Leandro, Hayward, and Union City to set policy.

Mr. Chan said this proposal is different than what you would normally see in our core program, as usually there is a minimum of 24 class/lab hours, and this proposal will include at least 8 hours, which is allowable by CEWTP. He said all hours depicted in the curriculum are for classroom laboratory training, and no productive lab hours are included. By using 8 hours as a minimum, they should be able to train employees who need accreditation in a curriculum segment of less than 24 hours. Thus, training would be customized to companies' and individual workers' needs. Funding will not be provided for the hours spent by a trainee taking an exam for certification.

Mr. Chan introduced MariAnn Fisher, Marketing & Sales Manager and Rae Ann Ianniello, Client Relationship Manager.

Ms. Roberts said she would like to see companies use LEED certification more often.

Voting action was delayed until a quorum was re-established.

Efficiency First, Inc.

Mr. Chan presented a Clean Energy Workforce Training Program (CEWTP) Proposal for Efficiency First, Inc. (Efficiency First), in the amount of \$405,140. Efficiency First is a national, nonprofit trade association whose mission is to advocate for companies and related organizations engaged in home energy performance retrofitting for residential customers. Its objective is to support the growth of the home energy performance retrofit industry and to meet the unprecedented demand for businesses and workers to provide quality residential energy improvements.

Mr. Chan introduced Jared Asch, National Director.

Ms. Roberts asked if the company has 206 employees in California, or if they contract with other home builders. Mr. Asch said they are a membership organization that represents 206 companies, so there are more employees than that. He said those individual businesses range in size from employing 74 persons to two to eight persons employed, with the majority of businesses being at the lower range.

Ms. Roberts asked if Efficiency First staff actually goes out and conducts the audits. Mr. Asch said no, Efficiency First does not conduct the audits; they are a membership non-profit organization and their members conduct their own businesses.

Ms. Roberts asked if they charge home companies membership fees and if they train them. Mr. Asch said they do not do the training and rely on private organizations such as the Building Performance Institute. He said they bring the market together to expand the marketplace, and try to determine how they can educate the public about home performance. They pool resources of the industry for advocacy purposes using public policy for grant opportunities like this to help provide training for the industry for marketing to consumers for consumer education. He said as programs are rolling out in California, and he believes approximately 22 counties are beginning to launch home performance programs at some level, they are advocating for standards. They favor increased standards for the entire industry.

Ms. Roberts said, so you do not conduct audits and do not train; you do marketing and so the funds will go to whom? Mr. Asch said it is their job is to manage the grant application; and the funds will go directly to the contractors who are employing the individuals conducting the home energy audits, and retrofit work to reduce energy. He said they will be the beneficiaries of this funding, and they are simply a trade association that will manage the process. All of the funds will go directly to the people who hire the workers.

Voting action was delayed until a quorum was re-established.

IX. REVIEW AND ACTION ON HIGH WAGE HIGH-SKILL TRAINING (HWST) PROPOSALS

David Guzman, Chief of Operations, provided a preview of the High Wage High Skill Training (HWST) Program. He said this will be the first proposal you will hear under the new HWST

Program in partnership with the Employment Development Department. This program is federally funded by \$3 million of the Governor's 15% Discretionary Fund and augmented by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The HWST training program is focused on training green, clean job skills. All the proposals under this program will be capped at \$500,000 for single-employers and \$750,000 for multiple-employer contracts. The Panel's Delegation Order for alternative funding of \$75,000 or less will also apply.

As with the other federally-funded alternative programs, it is anticipated that the approved amounts for these proposals will be reduced across-the-board until the final projects have been heard by the Panel. We estimate that reduction will be approximately 10%, as is the case in the CEWTP projects.

Mr. Guzman said these projects will follow the core program with a few exceptions. The curriculum will be focused on training in clean, green job skills, particularly with continuous improvement in computer skills training, which would be ancillary to the clean, green job skills. He said there is a 300-hour cap per-trainee, with flexibility for a hard-to-serve population (e.g., ex-offenders). Otherwise, hours over 300 will be subject to greater scrutiny for both retraining and new hire training. Computer-Based Training (CBT) is allowed, but must be capped at 50% of total training hours on a per-trainee basis. The only other notable exception to the core program is in retention, where the 7% portfolio model for new-hire retention will be allowed, and retention otherwise will be the standard 90 consecutive days. In the case of building trades, or non-traditional employment, the retention can be 200 hours within 365 days. In this program we will also allow productive lab, where it is justified on a case-by-case basis. Standards will be provided in the core program, on such items as employer contributions, reimbursement rates, support costs for multiple-employer contracts, and literacy and safety training.

Panel Member Kazarian arrived at 10:29 a.m. and a quorum was re-established.

Northern California Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council

Mr. Florence recused himself from discussion and voting on the HWST proposal for Northern California Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Mr. Chan presented a High-Wage High-Skill Training (HWST) proposal for the Northern California Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council (Green Building Council), in the amount of \$285,400. The Green Building Council is a non-profit organization chapter of a national council that was formed to achieve "a prosperous and sustainable future, through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings." In furtherance of this goal, the U.S. Green Building Council developed an internationally-recognized certification system known as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). LEED certification serves as third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies to improve environmental performance. In addition, the U.S. Green Building Council developed a professional credentialing system that substantiates knowledge and understanding of LEED.

Mr. Chan said this proposal was originally developed as part of the CEWTP program. But, as discussed earlier there is a shortage of funds, so we recommend that funding under HWST would maximize the use of federal funding which is available at ETP this fiscal year.

Mr. Chan said with regard to Panel Member Bart Florence's previous question about unions, there are some participating employers that are represented; the union letters are not included in the Panel Packets, but he received union support letters from four unions: 1) The NECA; 2) Stationary Engineers Local 39; 3) UAW Local 393 Plumber, Steamfitters & Refrigerator Fitters; and 4) the Pipe Trades and Training Centers.

Mr. Chan introduced Dan Geiger, Executive Director and Alicia Peman-Dupier, Program Coordinator.

Ms. Roberts said she was pleased to hear that companies are coming forward and interested in LEED certification, but from an economic standpoint, many LEED projects are on hold because of the expense. Ms. Roberts asked if they are government buildings. Mr. Geiger said that is a very good question; from what we are observing, and I do not have hard data on this since it changes frequently, the State has been very aggressive in mandating LEED for many of the State projects. Institutional buildings are very much still going LEED. He said he recently gave a presentation at a correctional department mental psychiatric hospital for a state prison, and they said they are doing seven throughout the state, for example. He said they are also seeing a lot of that in the healthcare industry and education; a lot of green schools. He said those are the strongest right now in terms of new construction.

Mr. Geiger said where the other really important area is, is in energy efficiency in existing buildings. He said the owners are beginning to realize and understand the cost savings associated with going through a LEED process. You can reduce operating costs on energy, as well as water and garbage, and increase the value and attractiveness of the commercial space. He said, people are getting the financial idea, and so the rate of adoption among existing buildings is where the growth is. There is not a lot of new construction obviously in many sectors, but when there is, particularly in Northern California, a lot of it is going to be LEED. This is understood to be the standard, and the best way to certify that you are really a true green building.

With the return of Panel Member Campbell, Ms. Roberts asked to return to Tab #2, Santa Monica Community College District, to begin voting on proposals.

Santa Monica Community College District (Voting Action)

ACTION: Mr. Rendon moved and Mr. Kazarian seconded approval of the CEWTP proposal for Santa Monica Community College District.

Motion carried, 6 – 0.

California Building Performance Contractors Association (Voting Action)

ACTION: Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Rendon seconded approval of the CEWTP proposal for California Building Performance Contractors Association.

Motion carried, 6 – 0.

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (Voting Action)

ACTION: Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Rendon seconded approval of the CEWTP proposal for Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

Motion carried, 6 – 0.

Efficiency First, Inc. (Voting Action)

ACTION: Mr. Rendon moved and Mr. Florence seconded approval of the CEWTP proposal for Efficiency First, Inc.

Motion carried, 6 – 0.

Northern California Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council (Voting Action)

ACTION: Ms. Montoya moved and Mr. Campbell seconded approval of the HWST proposal for Northern California Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Motion carried, 5 – 0 (Mr. Florence recused)

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

XI. PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURNS

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.