State of California Office of Administrative Law

In re:

California Energy Commission

Regulatory Action:

Title 20, California Code of Regulations

Adopt sections:

Amend sections: 3103

Repeal sections:

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY REGULATORY ACTION

Government Code Sections 11346.1 and 11349.6

OAL File No. 2015-0305-02 E

The California Energy Commission is amending section 3103 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations in this emergency rulemaking action. The purpose of this action is to modify existing regulatory text establishing funding restrictions for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. This emergency action removes the requirement to discount the value of any emission credits received in an amount commensurate with the level of funding obtained from the Energy Commission for those that voluntarily opt-in to programs for the purpose of participating in the program's credit market. This change would allow these program participants to receive the full value of any emission credits the funded projects create.

OAL approves this emergency regulatory action pursuant to sections 11346.1 and 11349.6 of the Government Code.

This emergency regulatory action is effective on 3/12/2015 and will expire on 9/9/2015. The Certificate of Compliance for this action is due no later than 9/8/2015.

Date: 3/12/2015

Senior Attorney

For:

DEBRA M. CORNEZ

Director

Original: Karen Douglas Copy: Lisa DeCarlo

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Express Terms to Modify Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Funding Restrictions

California Code of Regulations Title 20. Public Utilities and Energy

Division 2. State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission Chapter 12. Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Regulations

Article 1. General Provisions Regarding Project Funding Section 3103

- a) A project shall not be eligible for funding if it is mandated by any local, regional, state, or federal law, rule, or regulation.
- b) If a project is one that helps the proposing entity applicant meet a performance requirement mandated by local, regional, state, or federal law, rule, or regulation, the project shall not be eligible for funding.
- c) To the extent a project exceeds what is required for compliance with a legally enforceable requirement, it may receive funding for that part of the project that the applicant demonstrates is not mandated to meet the requirement. Credits generated by the excess, however, may not be used or sold by the proposing entity applicant to offset a legally enforceable requirement, except to the extent allowed by subsection (bd).
- <u>d)</u> For purposes of this section, a legally enforceable requirement refers to any requirement enforceable by a local, regional, state, or federal agency for the purpose of reducing the emission of one or more criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, or any greenhouse gas. <u>For purposes of this section, the following are not subject to the restrictions contained in subdivisions (a)-(c):</u>
 - 1. A project that produces opt-in fuels under the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (California Code of Regulations, title 17, section 95840.1, subdivision (b));
 - 2. A project that produces fuel that meets or falls below the average carbon intensity requirements set forth in the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (California Code of Regulations, title 17, section 95842, subdivisions (b) and (c)) for the year in which the credits are generated;
 - 3. A project under which the applicant has voluntarily opted-in to an emission

- reduction credit generating program for the purpose of participating in the program's credit market; or
- 4. A project that had been awarded funding under Health and Safety Code section 44272 prior to the effective date of this section as amended and also satisfies at least one of the requirements listed in subdivisions (d)(1)-(3).
- (b) A project that generates credits that the applicant plans to claim based on the reduction of criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, or greenhouse gases may not be eligible for funding unless all of the following occur:
 - (1) the applicant seeks funding for only a portion of the project;
 - (2) the applicant agrees in the funding agreement to discount emission credits at least in proportion to the amount of funding received;
 - (3) the project satisfies one or more of the criteria in sections 3101 and 3101.5, as appropriate.

Note: Authority cited: <u>Sections 25213, 25218(e), Public Resources Code</u>; <u>Sections 44271(c) and 44242(a)</u> <u>Section 44272(a), Health and Safety Code</u>. Reference: <u>Section 44271(c), Sections 44271-44272</u>, Health and Safety Code.