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March 21, 2022

The Honorable Eduardo Garcia Chair, Assembly Utilities & Energy Committee 1021 O St., Ste. 8120 Sacramento, CA 95814

## Re: AB 1814 (Grayson) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Garcia,

On behalf of Valley Clean Energy (VCE), a community choice aggregation (CCA) program serving Yolo County, I write to express our support for AB 1814 (Grayson), a bill that would authorize Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) to submit applications to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to receive funding to administer transportation electrification programs in their service areas.

VCE is the not-for-profit public electricity provider serving over 120,000 customers in unincorporated Yolo County and the cities of Woodland, Davis, and Winters. As a locally governed public entity we are focused on providing cost effective clean electricity while improving the communities we serve through local reinvestment of our revenues.

California has held lofty initiatives of meeting stringent air quality and climate change targets and a major component in meeting these targets are the state's zero-emission vehicles and electric vehicle (EV) charging stations objectives. In order to build out the necessary EV charging stations, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is in the midst of a proceeding to authorize Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) to file applications to receive ratepayer funded transportation electrification program funding, but we as a CCA are not explicitly authorized in existing law to access these funds, despite our customers also paying into these same funds.

VCE is currently implementing a Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) grant in conjunction with our member jurisdictions to install up to 40 Level 2 and 5 DC fast EV chargers throughout the VCE service territory. Through this work, we are developing an expertise on what our communities' needs for EV infrastructure and believe that we can deliver this EV infrastructure more quickly, efficiently and at much lower cost. For these reasons, VCE should have the opportunity to apply to the CPUC for the ratepayer funds the IOUs are proposed to collect for EV infrastructure purposes and AB 1814 seeks to enable that process.

AB 1814 is a narrow and straightforward bill in that it would explicitly authorize CCAs to file applications with the CPUC for programs and investments to accelerate widespread

transportation electrification. In order to submit these applications, CCAs would be regulated to meet all of the same requirements that IOUs are currently required to meet.

For these reasons, we support AB 1814 and thank Assemblymember Grayson for his leadership. We respectfully request your "Aye" vote when the bill is heard in committee. Sincerely,

Jess / Loren

Board of Directors Chair Valley Clean Energy

cc: The Honorable Members of the Assembly Utilities & Energy Committee The Honorable Tim Grayson