



May 17, 2023

Assemblymember Chris R. Holden, Chair
Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1626 (McCarty) - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Chris R. Holden:

The Green Hydrogen Coalition (GHC)¹ supports AB 1626 (McCarty), which provides hydrogen station developers with aggregated and protected data to best inform placement of hydrogen fueling infrastructure. Specifically, this bill requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to gather and share fleet data that is already being collected by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and other agencies with hydrogen station developers to inform future station locations. The GHC believes AB 1626 is a common-sense step that aligns California’s grid-planning processes with the state’s goals for zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), air quality, and the climate.

Hydrogen transportation and refueling has been acknowledged as pivotal by state agencies, several of which are actively planning for its inclusion in state programs. For example, CARB not only defines hydrogen² as eligible for credits in its Low Carbon Fuel Standard, but is also discussing expanding its light-duty Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure (HRI) program to include medium- and heavy-duty transport.³ Additionally, CARB’s 2022 Scoping Plan finds that for all new passenger vehicles sold in California to be zero-emission by 2035 (Executive Order N-79-20), “electric and hydrogen transportation refueling must be readily accessible.”⁴ Further, the CEC – as directed by Senate Bill 1075 (Skinner, Chapter 363, Statutes of 2022) – is set to analyze the potential growth of hydrogen and its role in decarbonizing the electricity and transportation sectors in the 2023 Integrated Energy Policy Report. By passing AB 1626, California can therefore help lead the market in using hydrogen to decarbonize the transportation sector.

¹ See <https://www.ghcoalition.org/>

² “Hydrogen used as a transportation fuel . . . or used for producing other transportation fuel.”

See: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/lcfs-electricity-and-hydrogen-provisions>

³ See: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/fuels/lcfs/lcfs_meetings/LCFSpresentation_02222023.pdf

⁴ See: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-04/2022-sp.pdf>, p.8



By providing hydrogen station developers with data to best inform placement of hydrogen fueling infrastructure, AB 1626 can help ensure that California has the robust insights needed to help the state meet both its ZEV and decarbonization goals. Therefore, GHC respectfully requests an "aye" vote when the Assembly Committee on Appropriations hears AB 1626.

Sincerely,

Janice Lin
Founder and President
Green Hydrogen Coalition

Nick Connell
Interim Executive Director
Green Hydrogen Coalition

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