

## COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE MARTY ROBINSON

County Executive Officer

J. Matthew Carroll Assistant County Executive Officer

> Paul Derse Chief Financial Officer

John K. Nicoll Human Resources Director

November 16, 2009

Elizabeth Stone, Contracts Officer California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street, MS-18 Sacramento, California 95814

RE: PON #400-09-401 Municipal Financing Program Application: CaliforniaFIRST Program

Dear Ms. Stone:

The County of Ventura is pleased to offer this letter of commitment to the State Energy Program application of Sacramento County regarding the **CaliforniaFIRST Program**, a property assessed clean energy program, sponsored by the California Statewide Communities Development Authority ("California Communities"). I am authorized to sign this letter of commitment on behalf of the County of Ventura pending final approval of Board of Supervisors.

Through participation in this municipal financing program, the County of Ventura strives to create lasting market and behavioral changes resulting in the increased adoption of distributed generation renewable energy sources and energy efficiency improvements for the property owners in the our jurisdiction.

The County of Ventura authorizes Sacramento County as the lead agency in submitting this application on behalf of our jurisdiction to provide funding in two program areas to ensure the long-term success of this innovative municipal financing program:

**Program Financing Costs**—to buy-down the interest rate on the initial round(s) of projects financed by the CaliforniaFIRST Program; cover fixed costs associated with bond counsel, bond disclosure, and bond rating; and fund set-up fees for counties and cities which cover legal and validation costs, as well as the deployment of technology to support local programs.

**Local Coordination and Marketing Costs**—to provide for grant administration; technical assistance; agency coordination; steering committee participation; education, outreach, incentives, and marketing; and community coordination for property owners participating in the program.

Elizabeth Stone, Contracts Officer California Energy Commission November 16, 2009 Page 2

Aligned with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and California Energy Commission (CEC) State Energy Program strategies, our proposed program will increase green jobs, increase energy efficiency and deployment of renewable energy technologies, promote economic activity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

County of Ventura will help to guide program development and implementation in our jurisdiction and throughout the region by serving on the appropriate steering committee, and coordinating with state level CaliforniaFIRST partners, local government coordination program partners, and relevant internal departments. We will work collaboratively to ensure the success of the pilot and the long-term success of the program.

County of Ventura intends to provide the CEC, upon Board of Supervisors approval, with two governing board resolutions contingent upon proposal selection for funding and inclusion in the Notice of Proposed Awards. The resolutions are:

- 1. Authorization for the collaborative lead agency bidder Sacramento County to apply for and receive funding on behalf of County of Ventura, and
- 2. Authorization for County of Ventura to join the California Communities CaliforniaFIRST Program.

County of Ventura is grateful for your consideration of this proposal. If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact Christy Madden at (805) 654-2679 or <a href="mailto:Christy.madden@ventura.org">Christy.madden@ventura.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Marty Robinson

County Executive Officer