Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps
a private nonprofit corporation

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
12-EPIC-1
TN # 66813
AUG 17 2012

EPIC Program Comments

August 17, 2012

The Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps ("SRCC") would like to thank the California Energy Commission's ("CEC") for the opportunity to comment on the important goals, intent and purposes of the EPIC program. The SRCC agrees with the comments provided by the Department of Industrial Relations that a critically important aspect of EPIC is the opportunity to focus on "work force development" and "job creation" within the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout California.

The SRCC also agrees with the California Conservation Corps ("CCC") comments that EPIC represents an important opportunity for the CEC, all Investor Owned Utilities, and program providers to work closely with the SRCC, other Local Conservation Corps, and the CCC throughout the state to create more cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy programs that are consistent with the stated purposes of the EPIC program. The SRCC believes that the EPIC program purposes should be intentionally focused on the creation of jobs, skills, valuable work experience for the many unemployed and under employed young citizens of California.

The SRCC has been providing critically needed training, education, skills training and employment opportunities for tens of thousands of young people in the Sacramento area for more than 27 years. The SRCC has a long history of working with Utilities such as SMUD and PG&E, corporations of all types, and local governments on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects and programs in northern California.

The SRCC agrees with the comments made by the CCC, and recommends that the CEC, Investor Owned Utilities, and all eventual EPIC Program providers, implementers, and evaluators should make planned and intentional use of the CCC, and its partnerships with Local Corps, for the provision of Corpsmembers and services throughout the state as an integral part of their program designs, implementations, and evaluations. In this way, the critically important EPIC goals of "Energy & Cost Savings, Job Creation, Economic Benefits, Environmental Benefits, and other Societal Benefits" will be realized in the most cost effective and economically beneficial manner on behalf of the electric rate payers and citizens of California.

The SRCC looks forward to working with EPIC Programs to accomplish all of the goals stated for EPIC.

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