



May 11, 2012

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Chairman Kevin Murphy
Council on Foundations
2121 Crystal Drive, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Letter of Support for the San Diego Foundation's Application for the Secretary's Award for Community Foundations

Dear Mr. Murphy:

On behalf of CleanTECH San Diego, I am pleased to express my support for the San Diego Foundation's submission for the Secretary's Award for Community Foundations from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Council on Foundations.

CleanTECH San Diego is a nonprofit association focused on accelerating the greater San Diego region's transition to a clean energy economy. We have a broad and diverse membership that includes private sector companies, local governments, nongovernmental agencies and universities and research institutions.

Since launching their Climate Initiative, the Foundation has played a leadership role in catalyzing an unprecedented level of collaboration among local governments, state and federal agencies, philanthropy, business and nongovernmental partners such as CleanTECH San Diego, to address the challenges which climate change poses to the San Diego region's quality of life. One example includes the Foundation's work with a coalition of San Diego organizations, agencies and municipalities to secure more than \$154 million, or 20% of the total federal funds available, in Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Nine local municipal agencies, ranging from cities to school districts, filed for the CREBs, which allow recipients to issue no or low-interest bonds to finance renewable energy projects. The San Diego CREBs coalition consists of CleanTECH San Diego, 3FFICIENT (formerly PE Consulting), California Center for Sustainable Energy, UC San Diego, Latham & Watkins LLP, Stone & Youngberg, the San Diego Foundation, Southern Contracting Inc. and MuniBond Solar, along with the agencies and municipalities that submitted applications.

Another example is the Foundation's collaboration with CleanTECH San Diego in commissioning a report, "Economic Vitality: Clean Jobs in the San Diego Region," which analyzed past studies and interviewed employers, public officials, industry associations and experts to find out what drives the clean jobs industry in San Diego. We have continued to use this report to build public awareness and support for regional efforts to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency as a way to address climate change.

Based on the published criteria, we highly recommend the San Diego Foundation as an ideal candidate to be recognized by the Secretary's Award for Community Foundations.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson