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California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street, 1st Floor Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Letter of Support for San Diego State University's Application for the Sustainable Energy Entrepreneur Development (SEED) Initiative (RFP-15-305)

Dear California Energy Commission:

On behalf of Cleantech San Diego, please accept this letter of support for San Diego State University's (SDSU) proposal to become the administrator of the Sustainable Energy Entrepreneur Development (SEED) Initiative (RFP-15-305).

As you know, over the past 16 years the Energy Innovation Small Grant Program (EISG) has been administered by SDSU and has provided support for a variety of technologies including renewable energy, biorenewables, energy storage, and grid stability. The staff at SDSU who managed this program has done so in an efficient and innovative manner and has achieved great results.

As part of the EISG program, SDSU carefully selected over 400 projects for awards. Many of these projects met their goals and obtained over \$2 billion in follow-on funding. The projects have led to thousands of new jobs in California. Some examples in the clean energy area are Vigilent (air conditioning energy efficiency); Adura Technologies Inc. (lighting efficiency); Clustered Systems Company Inc. (data server energy efficiency); and NEXT Energy Technologies Inc. (flexible solar cells). These funded projects have led to thousands of jobs in California and have enhanced energy efficiency, improved renewable energy and energy storage technologies, and improved grid reliability and stability.

The SEED Initiative promises to continue the efforts of the EISG program to support renewable and clean technologies. To maintain the momentum of this new innovation program, I strongly support the Energy Commission selecting SDSU as the administrator of the SEED Initiative, thus accessing the experience of their staff and their extensive knowledge in administering programs of this type.

Cleantech San Diego is a nonprofit member organization that positions the greater San Diego region as a global leader in the cleantech economy. We achieve this by fostering collaborations across the private-public-academic landscape, leading advocacy efforts to promote cleantech priorities, and encouraging investment in the San Diego region. Our primary mission is to accelerate clean technology innovation and the adoption of sustainable business practices for the benefit of the economy and the environment. The SEED Initiative is critical to the success of our efforts.

Should you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson President and CEO Cleantech San Diego