

# State Building and Construction Trades Council

ANDREW MEREDITH  
PRESIDENT

of California

Established 1901  
Chartered By  
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES  
DEPARTMENT  
AFL - CIO

J. TOM BACA  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

April 4, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary  
Department of Energy (DOE): Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED)  
1000 Independence Avenue  
Washington, DC 20585

**RE: Letter of Support for ARCHES' Department of Energy Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE- FOA-0002779, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Clean Hydrogen Hubs**

Dear Secretary Granholm:

The State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, AFL-CIO, offers an unequivocal commitment to ensuring the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES), as California's hydrogen (H2) hub consortium, will help the state, and our nation, accelerate the development and deployment of clean, renewable H2 projects and infrastructure. The State Building and Construction Trades Council of California has been a foundational ARCHES partner since its inception.

We support ARCHES' objective to fully decarbonize California's economy while prioritizing environmental justice, equity, economic leadership, and workforce development. Adding hydrogen to our state's energy portfolio is not only an important step in decarbonizing the state but it will also foster green careers for thousands throughout California. California's organized labor community stands ready to provide the highly skilled and trained workforce required to advance California's hydrogen hub. A hydrogen hub in California will not only deliver clean energy but also build lifelong good-paying careers for generations.

To this end, the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California is **committing \$250 million in-kind** to ensure the success of ARCHES (\$25 million in-kind per year for the 8 years of the project proposal and beyond). These resources will be primarily directed towards the development of educational programs, including the upskilling and re-skilling of union workers throughout California, as well as the training of new members of the workforce. This comprises the creation of educational materials, provisioning of facilities for training, as well as educational instructors. Additionally, all apprentices will begin a path towards middle-class wages, health benefits, and retirement, and journey-level members are concurrently earning middle-class wages, health benefits, and retirement throughout their training on the job.

We will work together with ARCHES and ARCHES partners to ensure that as demand for a hydrogen-informed workforce grows, the supply of skilled workers will be available to meet that demand. Future

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hydrogen jobs include: construction, operations, service, and maintenance of the H2 technologies; production, transmission, and transportation; and storage and service to the end user. We have the training capacity to ensure that California's renewable hydrogen workforce is the best trained in the nation to ensure that the necessary hydrogen infrastructure is safe and reliable. For the tens of thousands of skilled workers who are involved in California's existing energy sector, green hydrogen represents real and meaningful opportunities to participate in the state's clean energy transition.

Our organizations are proud to be among the more than 150 public and private stakeholders who have been working collaboratively in the past year to build the framework for, and implementation of, a clean H2 hub and ecosystem across California, and beyond.

The initial investment to establish ARCHES' clean hydrogen hub will lead to large-scale investments in new infrastructure, stimulate regional economies, spur the growth of new green careers for California's workers, and ensure needed economic, social, and health benefits for local residents. ARCHES' successful establishment of a clean hydrogen economy in California will mark a significant and decisive turning point towards a clean energy future.

We, the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, and the skilled workforce we proudly represent, stand ready today to build the technology and infrastructure for a decarbonized and clean tomorrow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew J. Meredith".

ANDREW J. MEREDITH  
President

AJM:bp  
opeiu#29/afl-cio