

**California Performance Review Commission Meeting on Infrastructure
UC Riverside, August 13, 2004**

**Comments from the California Council on Science and Technology
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Executive Director**

My name is Susan Hackwood and I am the Executive Director of the California Council on Science and Technology. My comments relate to Infrastructure chapter, Chapter 4, of the California Performance Review and in particular the section that deals with Management of State Infrastructure Programs. INF17 proposes to integrate the state's infrastructure research and development programs in to a single department that would have responsibility for energy, water, waste management and other infrastructure research programs. This is proposed so as to create a coordinated vision for addressing the state's infrastructure issues and to "leverage dollars and ideas".

There are two aspects of INF 17 that I wish to address.

The first deals with the Recommendation A, that the Governor should work with the Legislature to create the Office of Infrastructure Research and Development within the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency or its successor.

CCST represents R&D managers from industry, government and academic Institutions. We have also considerable experience in monitoring one of the State's largest energy research programs. **It is our opinion that it is essential that any state supported R&D be closely coupled with and integrated into the policy making process.**

A good example of what can be accomplished by linking R&D with policy is afforded by the interaction of CCST with the California Energy Commission.

Energy research programs run by the CEC now account for approximately half of all state research and development activities. California is a leader in state-supported energy research. The PIER program has sponsored and contributed to near-term energy research across a panoply of energy activities, resulting in technology and knowledge employed in industry, commerce and residences across California. PIER has worked cooperatively with businesses and universities within California, with other state governments and with the federal Department of Energy. The program provides a unique service in addressing the energy needs and goals of California, and has assured that the broader national programs incorporate our specific concerns.

The success of PIER is integrally tied to the joint administration of the energy research program with energy policy-making by the State. The program has benefited from the close direction provided by the CEC, and in return it has provided information that feeds directly into the State's energy regulatory activities.

Examples of successful synergies between PIER and the State energy regulatory and incentive and programs include:

- The revised energy efficiency building standards in Titles 20 and 24
- State initiatives in climate change (AB 1495) and the Tri-State Partnership on Climate Change
- The Renewable Portfolio Standards

In addition, PIER projects are investigating, and will contribute to policies for:

- Environmentally preferred advanced generation and the 2007 ARB rules on distributed generation emissions
- Demand response/ dynamic pricing
- Transmission and distribution systems

Any reorganization should maintain the close administrative relationship between the energy research program and the energy policy activities currently located within the California Energy Commission. A close relationship between the research and policy activities keeps the energy research program focused on California's specific needs and goals, insures that the research projects retain relevance to government policy, and contributes in important ways to energy policy formation.

The second comment is in regard to Recommendation B, that the Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, or its successor, should establish an Infrastructure Advisory Council to provide input and advice to the Office of Infrastructure Research and Development on a strategic plan for infrastructure research and development.

The Infrastructure Advisory Council should include representatives from the California Council on Science and Technology, California Energy Commission, Caltrans' research and development advisory group, infrastructure division chiefs, resources departments, and regional technology and economic development groups.

CCST is ideally suited to the role of serving as advisor to the Infrastructure Agency. Founded by the California State Legislature and the Governor in 1988 via legislation, CCST is the State's leading partnership of industry, academia and government that identifies ways that science and technology can be used to improve California's economy and quality of life. We have a long track record of performing energy, water, transportation, and technology transfer projects at the request of policy makers and can tackle a wide variety of issues in science and technology. Most importantly, we are capable of bringing the State's top experts to assist policy makers and program managers. Our S&T infrastructure reports and R&D energy analysis reports are substantially quoted in the CPR. An Infrastructure Advisory Council connected to CCST would be in a position to tackle immediate problems. In addition however, we would be able to provide a longer range California, National and International perspective on State-supported R&D infrastructure research.