



May 16, 2019

Councilmember Martinez
Councilmember Krekorian
Councilmember Cedillo
Councilmember O'Farrell

Re: Motion to Adopt Buy Clean into the City's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Products Purchasing (EPPP) Program Ordinance

Dear Members of the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Council Committee:

We are writing to express our support for the Motion that has been introduced by Councilmember Koretz directing the LA Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) to deliver a Council Report on incorporating elements of the [Buy Clean California Act](#) into the City's Environmentally Preferable Products Purchasing (EPPP) Program Ordinance. Signed into law in 2017, Buy Clean California directs the State to purchase certain construction materials (structural steel, flat glass, carbon steel rebar, and mineral wool insulation) for public works projects from manufacturers that have reduced their greenhouse gas pollution during the production process. The law received bi-partisan support in the State Legislature as well as support from industry, environmental groups, and labor unions. The law is inspired by similar policies that have proven to be successful in the private sector.

The pollution information is disclosed in an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) which is similar to a "nutritional label" that details the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that were created during the raw materials acquisition and manufacture of a product. The law is in the process of implementation now by the Department of General Services (DGS), and will take effect over the next three years. Beginning Jan. 1, 2019, the State is requesting that bidders submit EPDs for the materials to be used in the project. In Jan. 1, 2020, the State will require bidders to submit EPDs. By Jan. 1, 2021, the State will have developed a Global Warming Potential (GWP) limit for each of the eligible materials to be published in the State Contracting Manual. In July, 2021, EPDs for materials to be used in State projects must meet this requirement.

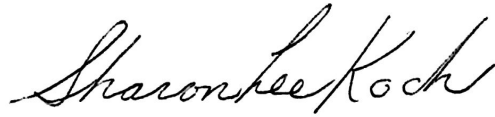
California is the 5th largest economy in the world, spending \$10 billion a year on State infrastructure projects with over \$100 billion in long-term obligations. Buy Clean California aligns public spending with the State's environmental goals. This money should be spent in a way that supports manufacturers that have taken steps to reduce their greenhouse gas pollution while incentivizing dirty companies to adopt cleaner production practices if they want to be competitive while selling products to the State.

The City of LA has demonstrated remarkable leadership in responding to the climate crisis we are experiencing. We support the City's efforts in adopting Buy Clean policies and hope the ECCEJ Council Committee will act swiftly on the motion.

Sincerely,



Molly Culton
Conservation Organizer
Sierra Club California



Sharon Lee Koch
Chapter Chair
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter



Jason Wise
Central Group Conservation Chair
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter



JB Tengco
Western States Director
BlueGreen Alliance

David Pettit
Senior Attorney, Climate & Clean Energy
Program
NRDC

Cc: Councilmember Koretz