

ERIC SWALWELL
15TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

**CO-CHAIR, DEMOCRATIC STEERING
AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

CHAIR EMERITUS, FUTURE FORUM

3615 CASTRO VALLEY BLVD.
CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546
(510) 370-3322

407 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5065

SWALWELL.HOUSE.GOV

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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PROPERTY, AND THE INTERNET

April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$1,000,000 in funding for the Hayward Municipal Critical Facility Resilience project for fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the East Bay Community Energy, 1999 Harrison Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

This project is needed to ensure that Hayward can continue to provide critical government services to the communities it serves. The federal funds will be spent to install battery storage at the City's Critical Municipal Facility sites. Given the current state of technology, supply chain challenges, and the public-serving nature of the investment, costs for energy storage are high, and it is difficult to develop a revenue model that allows for recouping the cost of critical service provision.

Major changes have taken place across the state and country, ranging from the accumulating impacts of climate change to the aging of our energy infrastructure. Technological advancements in renewable power and energy storage present new solutions that were not previously available. This project ensures that the City of Hayward can respond with the best tools available to support and protect its community.

This project ensures that critical services—fire, safety and emergency operations—are resilient to grid outages, which are becoming increasingly frequent. The provision of safety and emergency services are a key public service that is typically paid with taxpayer funds since they service the public at no cost. The provision of these services is threatened by grid outages, driven by factors ranging from earthquakes to wildfires exacerbated by climate change. Hours of grid outage have more than doubled in the US since 2013 per the US EIA, which represents a challenge for the provision of emergency services as outages become longer and more frequent.

The use of diesel generators has been an alternative approach to providing emergency power, but this approach creates air pollution and is limited by the stock of diesel on hand. This project's renewable backup power provides a more resilient and beneficial solution for emergency backup power. The project will increase in local governments' ability to use renewable, local energy sources that also creates demand for green jobs, which will be required to pay a living wage.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric Swalwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eric" and last name "Swalwell" clearly distinguishable.

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress