#### THE CALIFORNIA DEBT LIMIT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

## **September 28, 2011**

#### Staff Report

# REQUEST FOR A QUALIFIED PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND ALLOCATION FOR AN EXEMPT FACILITY PROJECT

Prepared by: Richard Fischer **Applicant:** California Municipal Finance Authority **Allocation Amount Requested:** \$25,200,000 **Project Information:** Name: RP1 Fuel Cell, LLC and UTS SJ1-LLC 2450 East Philadelphia Avenue and 700 Esteros Road **Project Address:** Ontario and San Jose, San Bernardino and Santa Clara, 91761 and 95 **Project City, County, Zip Code: Project Sponsor Information:** Name: Rp1 Fuel Cell and UTS SJ-1,LLC Address: 2211 Encinitas Boulevard Encinitas, California 92024 **Principals**: Arun Sharma **Contact:** Same (760) 436-8870 **Phone: Project User Information:** Name: Same as Project Sponsor Address: Same as Project Sponsor **Contact:** Same as Project Sponsor Same as Project Sponsor Phone: **Project Financing Information:** Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. **Bond Counsel:** Not Applicable **Underwriter**: **Credit Enhancement Provider:** Not Applicable Stern Brothers & Company **Private Placement Purchaser:** August 9, 2011 **TEFRA Hearing Date: Project Sponsor's Principal Activity:** According to the Applicant, the company engages in the biogas production and conversion to electricity and heat through silage, sludge, manure, food waste, and green municipal wastes. No First Tier Business (Yes/No):

No

**Regulatory Mandate (Yes/No):** 

#### **Details of Transaction:**

Sources of Funds:	
Tax-Exempt Bond Proceeds	\$ 25,200,000
Other Sources	\$ 4,524,233
Total Sources	\$ 29,724,233
Uses of Funds:	
New Equipment Purchase & Installation	\$ 18,685,481
Engineering/Architecture	\$ 4,494,632
Legal Permits	\$ 2,050,000
Cost of Issuance (incl. discount)	\$ 489,120
Interest During Construction	\$ 1,350,000
Interest Income During Construction	\$ 135,000
Other (Debt Service Reserve)	\$ 2,520,000
Total Uses	\$ 29,724,233

#### **Description of Proposed Project:**

According to the Applicant, the Project in Ontario will utilize biogas produced as a byproduct of wastewater treatment to produce 2.8 MW of energy and waste heat at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) Regional Plant #1(RP1). The electricity and heat will be utilized entirely by the treatment facility. The Project in San Jose will utilize biogas produced as a byproduct of wastewater treatment to produce 1.4 MW of energy and waste heat at the San Jose Water pollution Control Plant . The electricity and heat will be utilized entirely by the treatment facility.

#### **Environmental Impact:**

- 1) Air Quality: Yes
  - Molten Carbonate Fuel Cells generate a significant quantity of power with very low emissions and are very efficient. Both sites expect to reduce greenhouse emissions by an average 85% for the Ontario facility alone.
- 2) Water Quality: Not Applicable
- 3) Energy Efficiency: Yes

Self sufficient systems. Generates cost savings as well as other efficiencies.

- 4) Recycling of Commodities: Not Applicable
- 5) Safety and Compliance: Yes

All CEQA requirements and ongoing South Coast Air Quality Monitoring Districts permits have been issued and met.

6) Consumer Costs Savings and Efficiencies: Yes
Efficiencies described will result in cost savings to the consumer due to competitive electricity prices coupled with the utilization of waste heat.

## **Local Government Support:**

This Project is part of both communities plans for self sufficient, renewable energy plans.

### **Legal Questionnaire:**

No information was disclosed that raised any question regarding the financial viability or legal integrity of the

## **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Committee approve \$25,200,000 in tax exempt bond allocation.