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## **BY EMAIL**

Angie Hacker, Statewide Best Practices Coordinator California Climate and Energy Collaborative ahacker@lgc.org

## **Re: The LED Fraud**

Dear Angie Hacker,

Utility companies have made the fraudulent claim that LEDs are energy efficient. By committing this fraud, the utility companies have convinced cities across America to switch to LED lights with the promise of saving energy. LEDs do not save energy; instead, they emit a toxic, hazardous, discriminatory substance that is making Americans agitated and angry, increasing violence, causing epileptic seizures, migraines, panic attacks and eye damage.

- An incandescent light bulb and a High-Pressure Sodium lamp provide the service of uniform illumination. LEDs and laser beams provide a service of high intensity light beams. Because the two services are entirely different, an energy efficiency comparison cannot be made between the two types of products.<sup>1</sup>
- 2) Per the story in NPR on Baltimore's climate change lawsuit, "Baltimore is asking state courts to weigh in on what Sokol calls a 'long-standing, systematic deceptive marketing campaign designed to hide the catastrophic dangers,' of fossil fuels."<sup>2</sup> Similarly, the utility companies have preyed on the state's desire to reduce energy use. The utility companies have earned millions of dollars by fraudulently claiming that LEDs are energy efficient when that statement is not true.
- 3) The results of the LED fraud are wasted taxpayer dollars, no improvement in climate change goals, a massive increase in the number of light emitters, and an increase in mood disorders, premature births, violence, loss of sleep, anger, agitation, seizures, migraines, emotional trauma, and short-term and long-term eye damage.
- 4) The California Climate and Energy Collaborative makes this same fraudulent claim that LEDs are energy efficient, as shown in Figure 1.<sup>3</sup> If the CCEC is making this claim on their own, then the CCEC is liable for the economic, environmental, and human damage caused by LEDs. However,

<sup>3</sup> <u>https://eecoordinator.info/city-of-oakland-completes-streetlight-led-conversion-more-than-30000-lights-converted-paid-for-by-energy-savings/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.energystar.gov/about/about\_energy\_efficiency</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.npr.org/2022/01/25/1075560742/oil-lawsuit-climate-change-baltimore</u>

if this claim is based on the information provided by the utility companies, then the CCEC can hold the utility companies liable.

The City of Oakland has completed converting 30,333 street lights to light-emitting diode (LED), in a project started in 2013 and completed in 2014. Replacement of the old streetlight fixtures with new LED fixtures provides a better quality of light to enhance public safety. In addition, the conversion project saves resources as the LED technology is more energy efficient and the bulbs have a longer lifespan. Learn more about the project on the City of Oakland's website.

Figure 1 - Fraudulent Claim

We are including our report titled, <u>The LED Fraud</u> which contains more details and references to source material. The damage being caused by LED lights is similar in scope to the damage being caused by climate change but with more immediate impact. We are available to assist the CCEC to better understand how the LED Fraud was perpetuated by the LED Cartel.

Sincerely,

Mark Baker

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