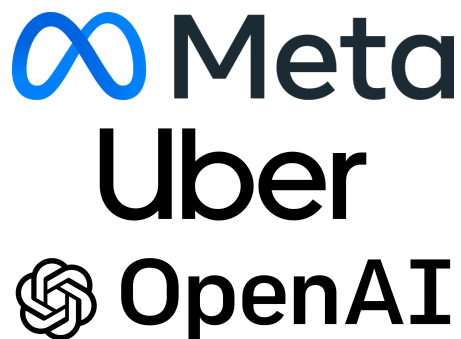




Uber WEBSITE: <https://www.uber.com/>
Meta WEBSITE: <https://www.meta.com/>
OpenAI WEBSITE: <https://openai.com/about/>

October 7, 2026

Governor,
Gavin Newsom

California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate President Pro Tempore,
Monique Limón
California State Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Speaker,
Robert Rivas
California Assembly

Dear Governor Newsom, Senate President Pro Tempore Limón, and Assembly Speaker Rivas,

These comments are made on behalf of Meta, Uber, and OpenAI. We are writing regarding Senate Bill 17, the Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Act, introduced by Senator Josh Becker. We urge the California Legislature and Governor to support SB-17 because a reliable, affordable, and resilient electric grid is essential to California's continued economic growth, technological innovation, and transportation development.

California's electricity system is facing growing demand from transportation, technology, businesses, and other industries. SB-17 directly recognizes this challenge by establishing the Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Grant Program within the California Energy Commission. The bill would appropriate \$40 million from the General Fund for projects involving clean energy generation, battery storage, energy efficiency, and community energy resilience. These investments can help California strengthen its electric grid while preparing for continued growth in electricity demand.

Reliable electricity is particularly important for the technology sector. Companies such as Meta and OpenAI depend on significant technological infrastructure and reliable energy to operate their services and continue developing new technologies. As electricity demand from technology and businesses increases, California must continue investing in infrastructure capable of meeting that demand. SB-17 supports this goal by prioritizing projects that improve electricity reliability and reduce electricity costs.

The bill also supports several technologies that can strengthen California's energy infrastructure. Eligible projects include solar energy generation, battery energy storage, energy-efficiency improvements, microgrids serving critical community facilities, and technologies that reduce electricity demand during periods of peak demand. These investments can help California respond to periods of high electricity use and extreme weather while making the state's energy system more resilient.

SB-17 is also relevant to California's transportation future. As transportation becomes increasingly dependent on electricity, reliable energy infrastructure will become more important for communities, businesses, and transportation services. For Uber, improvements to the state's energy infrastructure can support the continued development of cleaner transportation technologies and help California prepare for changing transportation demands.

Importantly, SB-17 does not focus solely on technology companies. The bill gives priority to projects that reduce electricity costs, improve reliability during extreme weather events, serve public facilities, and support jobs in clean-energy industries. It also requires that no less than 50 percent of the program's funding directly benefit low- or moderate-income communities or public-serving facilities. These provisions ensure that investments in the electric grid can provide benefits across California while strengthening the infrastructure businesses depend upon.

The \$40 million investment authorized by SB-17 provides an opportunity to strengthen California's energy infrastructure while supporting economic and workforce development. The bill also requires the California Energy Commission to publish an annual report describing funded projects, funding amounts, estimated energy savings, and improvements to grid reliability. This reporting requirement provides transparency regarding how the program's resources are being used.

Meta, Uber, and OpenAI believe that continued investment in reliable and resilient infrastructure is necessary for California to remain a leader in technology, transportation, and innovation. SB-17 addresses growing electricity demand while supporting clean energy, energy efficiency, economic development, and community resilience.

Given the importance of a reliable electric grid to California's businesses, workers, communities, and future technologies, we respectfully urge the Legislature and Governor to support Senate Bill 17, the Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Act.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your support of Senate Bill 17.

Sincerely,

Jason Hernandez
Representative
Meta, Uber, and OpenAI

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jason Hernandez".