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February 10, 2026

President Reynolds  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Ave  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Support for Northern Rural Energy Network’s (NREN’s) 2028-35 Strategic Business Plan Application

Dear President Reynolds,

We are writing to express our strong support for the Northern Rural Energy Network’s (NREN) Business Plan application to continue and expand its energy efficiency efforts and programs in rural Northern California.

Regional Energy Networks (RENs) were established by the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) to fill gaps in energy efficiency programs provided by California’s Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs). Customers in rural Northern California, including Lake County, have traditionally been unable to access statewide and IOU programs, contributing more to utility bill-funded efficiency programs than they receive in services while experiencing higher than average energy burdens.

NREN was established in 2024 by the Lake Area Planning Council, Mendocino Council of Governments, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, and Sierra Business Council as a direct response to a number of critical needs and began delivering energy efficiency services across 17 rural Northern California Counties in 2025. For Lake County these services include residential energy efficiency kits, home energy assessments and residential rebates for efficient appliances and other equipment. Furthermore, NREN is deeply committed to serving the 44 of California’s 109 recognized Tribes that are within NREN service territory.

With this 2028-2035 Business Plan application, NREN will continue offering programs begun in this current cycle, expanding its program profile to cover commercial, public, and other needs in

Lake County. We look forward to supporting NREN in those efforts and encourage you to approve the 2028-2035 Strategic Business Plan Application.

Sincerely,

Brad Rasmussen  
Chair, Lake County Board of Supervisors