## **RESOLUTION NO. 25-05**

RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK FINDING DELAY NECESSITATED BY PROVIDING NOTICE TEN (10) DAYS PRIOR TO A MEETING AS REQUIRED BY CAL. GOV. CODE § 11125 WOULD CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL HARDSHIP AND IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUIRED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST

WHEREAS, the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank ("IBank") is established pursuant to the Bergeson-Peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Act (Cal. Gov. Code § 63000 et seq.) (the "IBank Act"), for the purpose of providing financial assistance to eligible projects in the State of California through a variety of financing mechanisms;

WHEREAS, effective June 29, 2020, Article 6.7 of the IBank Act (Cal. Gov. Code §§ 63048.91-63048.100) was added to the IBank Act establishing the Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund and the Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund Program (together, the "Climate Catalyst Fund") for the purpose of providing financial assistance for eligible projects (a "Climate Catalyst Project") intended to further California's climate goals, activities that reduce climate risk, and the implementation of low-carbon technology and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2024 the Coalition of Green Capital (the "CGC") entered into a grant agreement ("Grant Agreement") with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") under the National Clean Investment Fund ("NCIF") of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund ("GGRF") for the establishment and operation of a national green bank for the purposes of (i) providing financial assistance to qualified projects, (ii) conducting market-building activities, (iii) conducting predevelopment activities, and (iv) conducting program administration activities (the "CGC Program");

**WHEREAS,** on September 25, 2024, the Board of Directors (the "Board") adopted a Federal Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund – National Clean Investment Fund Financing Plan (the "NCIF Financing Plan") for the purpose of financing eligible projects under the Climate Catalyst Fund:

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2025, IBank and CGC entered into an NCIF subgrant agreement and its related transaction documents (together, the "Subgrant Agreement") for the purpose of receiving \$446,257,500 under the subgrant (the "Subgrant"), subject to the Board's approval, ratification, and authorization to use the proceeds of the Subgrant in accordance with the Climate Catalyst Criteria, the NCIF Financing Plan, and the Subgrant implementation plan.

**WHEREAS,** on January 22, 2025, the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-02 approving, ratifying and authorizing IBank's entry into the Subgrant Agreement;

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2025, IBank, CGC, and Citibank, N.A. ("Citibank") entered into an account control agreement ("ACA") as required by the Subgrant Agreement in order to open accounts at Citibank ("Accounts") for the purpose of depositing the proceeds of the Subgrant;

- WHEREAS, in the ACA, Citibank agreed to abide by IBank's instruction directing the disposition of funds and financial assets in IBank's Accounts unless CGC issues a notice of exclusive control ("Notice of Exclusive Control") with a written determination and finding that IBank is in substantial noncompliance with the terms and conditions of the Subgrant Agreement; there is adequate evidence of fraud, waste, or abuse; or a default has occurred under the Subgrant Agreement;
- WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, Citibank failed to abide by the terms of ACA by freezing the Accounts and restricting IBank's access to the proceeds of the Subgrant without having received a Notice of Exclusive Control from CGC;
- WHEREAS, on March 10, 2025, CGC filed a complaint in the United States District Court in the Southern District of New York against Citibank seeking declaratory and injunctive relief (the "SDNY Complaint");
- **WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2025, the EPA issued a Notice of Termination to CGC purporting to terminate the Grant Agreement;
- WHEREAS, on March 12, 2025, CGC voluntarily dismissed the SDNY Complaint and filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia against Citibank, the EPA, Lee Zeldin as administrator of the EPA, and W.C. McIntosh as acting deputy administrator of the EPA to seek injunctive relief against Citibank and to challenge the EPA's termination of the Grant Agreement;
- **WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2025, IBank provided to each Board member a notice of special meeting to take place on March 17, 2025, concerning potential litigation;
- WHEREAS, on March 14, 2025, CGC filed a motion for a temporary restraining order to prevent the EPA from ordering, and Citibank from carrying out, any action to claw back funds held in the accounts of CGC and its subgrantees;
- **WHEREAS,** Cal. Gov. Code, § 11125.4, subd. (c) requires that the Board must make a finding that the delay necessitated by providing notice 10 days prior to a Board meeting as required by Cal. Gov. Code, § 11125 would cause a substantial hardship or that immediate action is required to protect the public interest; and
- WHEREAS, in the opinions of IBank's General Counsel and the California Attorney General's Office, in its capacity as IBank's counsel in matters relating to the Subgrant and the Subgrant Agreement, due to the immediate actions required by any potential litigation, a special meeting is warranted pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code, § 11125.4, subd. (c) to protect the public interest as any delay may cause the State of California to lose over \$446 million in federal grant funds dedicated to activities with substantial public impacts, such as job creation in and economics benefits to local communities, and greater and faster reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, as follows:

**Section 1.** The Board hereby finds that the above recitals are true and correct.

**Section 2.** All actions heretofore taken by the Executive Director and the officers and employees of IBank in response to EPA or Citibank's actions or threats to freeze or clawback funds are hereby approved, confirmed and ratified.

**Section 3.** The Board hereby finds that the delay necessitated by providing notice ten (10) days prior to a Board meeting as required by Cal. Gov. Code, § 11125.4, subd. (c) would cause impending harm and immediate action is required to protect the public interest.

**Section 4.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** at a meeting of the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank on March 17, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Myers, Perrault, Quant, Steinorth

NOES:

**ABSENT: STO** 

ABSTAIN:





Secretary of the Board of Directors