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Congress of the United States  
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August 15, 2014

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Elon Musk  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tesla Motors, Inc.  
3500 Deer Creek Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Dear Mr. Musk,

I encourage you to consider the many benefits of locating your Gigafactory battery plant near the Coachella Valley in the area around the Salton Sea. Our beautiful desert offers unique opportunities for economic development through a trained renewable energy workforce, a low-cost and accessible supply of lithium, and an abundant array of renewable energy resources found nowhere else in the United States.

I grew up in the city of Coachella, within the Coachella Valley, near the Salton Sea. It is a community known for its world class arts festivals, affordable home prices, and resorts. It is a community with a vibrant local economy of small business owners and hardworking families. But more than this, the area around the Salton Sea is a cradle of renewable energy innovation.

Our unique location affords Tesla Motors access to educational pipelines that are preparing workforce leaders for careers in renewable energy through our abundant solar, wind, and geothermal renewable energy resources. Additionally, our desert is home to the largest lithium reserve known in the United States. My vision, which I believe you would share, is to invest in the Salton Sea and make it the largest renewable energy industrial park in the country to create jobs, improve families' lives and focus on what the Sea offers in a 21st century economy. All that is missing is Tesla Motors. I invite you to be part of our communities' success, which will undoubtedly be your success.

I ask that you consider development around the Salton Sea, which has the natural resources, renewable energy technologies, trained workforce, and vibrant desert community ideal for the Tesla Motors' Gigafactory. No other region in the country offers you the opportunity to produce batteries for the cars of the future with so much renewable energy potential. Please consider me a partner eager to be of assistance to you as your team considers site locations for the Tesla Gigafactory. I look forward to speaking with you more on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Raul Ruiz".

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress