May 21, 2010

Pleasanton, CA – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) issued a statement today on the recently announced partnership between Tesla Motors and Toyota to manufacture electric vehicles at the former New United Motors Manufacturing, Inc. (NUMMI) plant in Fremont. That statement appears below.

"This is excellent news that Tesla Motors and Toyota are partnering to produce electric vehicles at the former NUMMI plant. I commend Toyota for their vision of producing electric cars here in our area and their confidence in California workers. I also recognize Tesla Motors for bringing the manufacturing of their innovative technology to our community.

“This decision reflects well on our region as a center for technical excellence and on our state as a world leader in developing and manufacturing green energy technology. It couldn't come at a more critical time when jobs are so badly needed.

“As this new venture develops, I encourage Tesla and Toyota to utilize the many former NUMMI suppliers located in the Central Valley that can offer parts and other goods integral to the production process. There’s a tremendous opportunity for partnerships between these companies.

“While there are still challenges ahead to get the economy back on track, it’s good news that our area can lead the way as a manufacturing center for electric cars.”