April 14, 2009



## BAREFOOT MOTORS

EARTH UTILITY VEHICLES

Board Members c/o Clerk of the Board California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Comment to Proposed AB 118 Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Funding Plan for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Dear ARB Board Members,

Thank you for your work on AB 118.

This letter is to indicate Barefoot Motors' support for the AQIP Funding Plan and staffs' recommendation to include \$1.3 million for electric agricultural work vehicles.

As stated in the Funding Plan, AQIP's guiding principles for deployment projects are to: 1) attain ambient air quality standards, 2) choose projects ready for deployment, 3) modify consumer choice, and 4) consider funding needs. Allocating funds to help cover the incremental cost for 100% electric, off-road, work vehicles in agriculture supports those guidelines.

The technology (and vehicle) is now available to lower transportation-related emissions from one of the most common pieces of equipment used on farm - the ATV/utility vehicle. Providing a rebate up to \$2,500 will motivate the farming community to make the urgent leap to support cleaner and more sustainable technologies and respond to a growing consumer trend toward sustainable farming practices. On a broader level, it will help commercialize electric drive technologies across many other applications. One of Barefoot Motors primary consumer markets is the agricultural sector, and we have worked diligently with growers in California and elsewhere to field test and refine our product to meet the unique needs of the agricultural community.

Barefoot Motors strongly urges you to support and adopt staffs' recommendation for the zero-emission agricultural utility terrain vehicle rebate project at the proposed funding allocation of \$1.3 million. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Max Scheder-Bieschin, CEO

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