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March 7, 2013

Ms. Mary Nichols
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: Investment plan for cap-and-trade auction revenues

Dear Chair Nichols:

Move San Diego is one of more than 50 organizations that have signed on to the Sustainable Communities for All Proposal. We believe the vision of SB 375 can be achieved equitably and efficiently by providing transportation and housing choices that allow Californians to drive less and reduce household costs, especially for low-income households.

We are a local 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation dedicated to the preservation of San Diego's environment through the design of sustainable transportation, smart transit and improved infrastructure. Through the MOVE Alliance and their endorsements, we promote transit-oriented and affordable housing development.

For us, building homes affordable to lower-income households is key. In San Diego County, there is a deficit of 58,120 units in homes affordable and available to households earning below eighty percent of the area median income.

According to a recent report by the California Housing Partnership Corporation, preserving and building affordable homes near transit will allow California to achieve the maximum VMT and GHG-reduction benefits of investment in transit infrastructure and transit-oriented development.

Here in San Diego County, we've had positive experiences with HCD's Transit-Oriented Development Housing Program; Energy Savings Assistance Program; Multi-family Affordable Solar Homes Program; State Transit Assistance Program; and Active Transportation Program.

Investments like these will have the greatest impact on the communities most affected by climate change while also increasing access to opportunities and improving public health.

Thank you for considering our comments,

Elyse Lowe
Move San Diego
Executive Director