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October 22, 2007

Mary D. Nichols, Chairperson
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Support for Expanded List of Early Action Measures

Dear Chairperson Nichols and Members of the Board:

We are delighted that the California Air Resources Board will soon consider an expanded list of early action measures under the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32). It is essential to begin greenhouse gas emission reductions as quickly as possible, while the state works on the scoping plan that will outline a more comprehensive program, as called for in AB 32.

We particularly commend ARB staff for providing the Board with a set of proposed measures that will reduce global warming pollution, cut toxics pollution, and improve air quality at the same time. For example, we strongly support the Green Ports measure (that will require container ships at ports to turn off their dirty engines) and the SmartWay Truck measure (that will reduce fuel used by trucks). These measures will reduce global warming pollution, smog-forming pollutants, and toxic diesel soot and will result in immediate public health benefits. We also strongly support the Cement Energy Efficiency measure on the "Group 2" list. This measure will result in less global warming pollution as well as lower emissions of toxic mercury.

We were very pleased to see the diesel anti-idling enforcement measure included, and we agree that enhanced enforcement is needed to assure a high level of compliance with existing law. Additionally, we are encouraged to see the focus on high global warming potential sources, including the measure to undertake collaborative research, better to understand how the state can reduce greenhouse gas emissions from nitrogen land application.

The detailed analysis of each of the recommended measures, as presented in the Appendices of the draft report, justifies their adoption.

We appreciate and applaud the hard work that has gone into this effort to date, and look forward to working with you and your staff in the future, as California develops and implements the measures necessary to cut global warming pollution, and to meet or exceed the 2020 emissions limit specified in AB 32.

Very truly yours,

Gary A. Patton, Executive Director

cc: ARB Board Members; ARB staff members Tom Cackette and Chuck Shulock
Cal-EPA Secretary Linda Adams

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