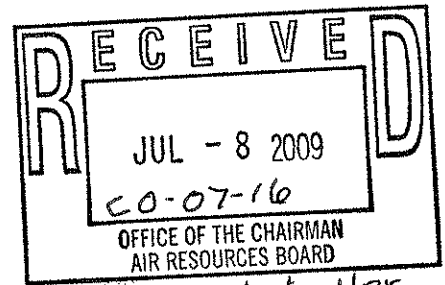


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Mary D. Nichols, Chairman  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 "I" STREET  
P.O. BOX 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812



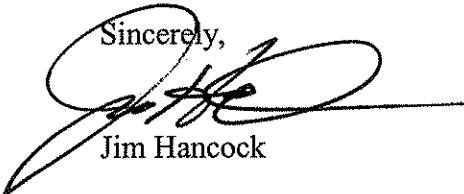
Comment Letter  
BARCA  
MDN  
JNG

Dear Chairman Nichols,

I recently read that the California Air Resources Board will be voting this month on the nation's first statewide "carbon fee" on utilities, oil refineries and other polluting industries. I urge you to please *NOT* vote in a carbon fee. The California economy is perhaps the worst it has ever been. Unemployment is over 11% and climbing, the state is broke, and many businesses are either going bankrupt or on the verge of doing so. Your "carbon fee" will devastate the California economy. According to news reports, you want to impose a "fee" on cement plants of about \$200,000 per year. That will kill the construction trade, already in trouble. Any fees you impose on oil refineries will result in yet higher gasoline costs for all Californians at a time when this state needs any help it can to climb out of this recession. Higher gasoline costs will raise the cost of virtually everything in California.

This is the most reckless idea I have heard in years. Please, for the sake of California's economy, vote NO on any "carbon fee". If you pass this you will be responsible for ruining any hope of California recovering from this recession.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Hancock".

Jim Hancock