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June 4, 2007

Chairman Robert Sawyer and Board Members
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 98814

Dear Dr. Sawyer and Board Members:

I am writing to express support for the California Air Resources Board's proposed Diesel Off-Road Equipment Regulation to control tail pipe pollution for in-use off-road mobile sources such as construction equipment. The rule, as currently drafted, sets achievable goals for pollution control, will protect public health and will bring the state's most polluted regions closer to meeting federal air quality standards. Additionally, it will contribute to controlling global warming pollution.

Some industry voices have expressed concern about the cost and fairness of the rules. Estimate from both the Air Resources Board and Industry for the costs of implementing the rule are substantially less than estimated health costs linked to pollution from the targeted sources. Californians bear as much as \$9 billion a year in health costs associated with diesel emissions from off-road mobile sources addressed in the rule. This is clearly a case where the benefits outweigh estimated costs.

This rule has been under discussion, vetted through many public workshops and other meetings with stakeholders around the state. The rule has been designed to be reasonable and flexible, ensuring industry's ability to comply.

Construction is one of the economic engines driving the economy of California. At the same time, California contains two of the most polluted air basins in the country. Everyone must play a part in reducing California's air pollution if we

RSJ/ksby
PZw/MS
Board Clerk
Executive Officer
Chair

ORIGINAL:
Copies:

are ever to reach the goal of clean air for all Californians. Off-road mobile diesel construction equipment generates about a quarter of the toxic diesel particulate matter pollution in the state. This proposed rule gives the construction industry and other owners of off-road mobile sources an opportunity to help solve the state's pressing pollution challenge and protect worker and public health. I strongly urge the board to adopt the rule without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Joseph Simitian". The signature is stylized with a large "S" and "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

S. Joseph Simitian
State Senator, 11th District

SJS/alp