Subject:
From: Steve Sadler <Sadlerx2000@msn.com>
Date: Fri, 19 Jan 2007 11:12:49 -0800
To: rsawyer@arb.ca.gov
CC: sandra <sandra@caladmanagement.com>

Robert Sawyer,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed ATCM changes.

I am a second generation drycleaner of 35 years with 25 years at my current location in Albany - just north of Berkeley. I process about 100,000 pounds of drycleaning a year with an amazing net usage of 19 gallons of perc. The percentage of wet processing is increasing each years as garment manufacturers produce designs that can be safely wet cleaned. I do about 35% wet processing now. I have explored the CO2 process and am not impressed with the system.

The state of California is so diverse in population and it's fabric needs, I think cleaners should have a choice about which solvents and cleaning methods they use.

If the ARB bans perc and promotes hydrocarbon this adds a known voc to the air of the bay area. We have our "Spare the Air" days in the bay area already. Why add more voc waste? It will soon look like South coast when you look over the bay.

California regulators should consider all the available data before making a huge decision about my industry.
The Center for Environmental Health in Oakland is one of my clients. I pick up and deliver and clean all the offices clothing. In discussions with them, they have not reviewed any of the Nordic study, which is the most comprehensive study regarding perc exposure.

Changing technology is an expensive undertaking. It is important to give clear direction to our industry so we don't have to change machinery every 5 years. To change to hydrocarbon is not a good solution- it is going bacwards 50 years. A controlled use of perc should be kept untill there is a better solution.

Clothing and garment manufacturers will begin adressing the needs of the environment. They will begin producing garments that can be wet processed. This will decrease the solvent useage- it is not necessary to regulate the methods used only to be told there may be a problem with its use in the years ahead.

Janis Sadler
Norge Cleaners
Certified Envirinmental Drycleaner
Certified Professional Drycleaner
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5 Star Award

398 San Pablo Av., Albany, CA 94706
510 526-3850
sadlerx2000@msn.com

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