

September 2, 2009

Mr. Mike McKeever, Chair
Regional Targets Advisory Committee

Re. Serious Concerns re. RTAC Draft Report

Dear Mike:

Overall, I feel that the "Working Draft RTAC Report" of August 28 is an ~~excellent~~ very good reflection of the discussions at ~~the~~ our meetings and represents, directionally, the RTAC recommendations. I must, however, express my strong disagreement with the inclusion of items not discussed, nor agreed to, at any of the RTAC meetings. In particular, the section entitled "New Authorities" indicates the RTAC has agreed to recommend a number of propositions, including the provision that regional governments be given significant new fee raising authority (Paragraphs 1 & 2) and that the RTAC supports the imposition of Indirect Source Review (ISR) measures (Paragraph 5). While we had some limited discussion on a Carbon Impact Fee (Paragraph 3) and Congestion Pricing (Paragraph 4), I don't recall a specific recommendation or motion to support either of these items. A third recommendation comes under the Federal Transportation Funding section in Paragraph 1, where the RTAC recommends "10% of funds generated from the auction of carbon emission" be set aside for regional transportation.

~~Both of these~~ The first two items are highly controversial public policy issues that have not been presented, discussed, nor agreed to by the Committee and I would request that they be removed from the report as RTAC recommendations. The item discussing distribution of funds from an auction of carbon emissions may not be as controversial, but again, it is an item I think demands RTAC discussion before it is included as a recommendation. I am concerned that attempting to debate ~~this~~ these items at the 11th hour at our meeting on September 16 will derail the ~~great~~ progress and ~~fragile~~ consensus that is emerging from the months of hard work by the CARB staff and the Committee members. I am confident that the final report will be an excellent product that will serve to guide CARB, the MPOs and many others as SB 375 gets implemented across the state. I would hate for its usefulness and impact to be hampered by the last-minute inclusion of such potentially polarizing recommendations ~~as the ISR~~.

Thank you for leadership and I look forward to continued progress over the next month and beyond.

Regards,

Stephen Doyle
RTAC Member