Lynwood Latino Coalition

March 25, 2008

Ms. Mary Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Community Impacts of AB 32 Policies

Dear Ms. Nichols,

It has been brought to my attention that you are in the process of selecting the implementation method for how we are going to help curb our greenhouse gas emissions and help address our growing concern over global warming. I am glad that we live in a State that looks toward the future and realizes that we must tackle Global Warming now, and help fix what previous generations have caused and protect our environment and way of life for our future generations. AB32 clearly sets the structure for us to achieve some very ambitious goals that will help create the change and inspire others to find the means to this end. Global Warming is not just about our local communities, Global Warming affects our hometowns in other Countries and it makes me proud that our legislative leadership is helping protect our communities here and abroad.

With this great challenge to reduce greenhouse gases, comes the even greater challenge to select the appropriate implementation method to help reach the goals set forth by AB32. Looking at the options available, it is clear to me that we must do our part and research this process clearly before a choice is made, because the choices aren't easy. At times, because of the nature of this subject or the pressures of deadlines, we rush into decisions that can ultimately cause more harm than good. I can only imagine the pressure and urgency you and the agency must be under to reach these ambitious goals and implement this type of landmark policy and begin to show change, but, we should be cautious of the possible consequences that could severely harm our families and communities, especially those we serve that are low/fixed income, if the wrong choice is made.

As I research this process and read on the potential implementation methods, I firmly believe that if we place costly implementation deadlines on the large utilities and other energy providers, those costs that they will ultimately absorb, will be passed on to us and affect our way of life; from higher fuel costs (which are already at record levels) to increase in energy costs, our families, and City services that we rely on, could not possibly survive the economic impacts.

I know that our voice might be small, but the communities and hundreds of families we represent matter, and as the head of this organization I plead for you to take the time and research all viable options for AB32 implementation. Please look at implementing AB 32 in a manner that will help reach the reduction goals, but cost our families less. We understand that in order to fix our polluting ways of the past, we will have to pay a price, but that price can't be our livelihood.

We pray that you'll keep our families and children in mind as you make your final decision

Sincerely,

Janett Sanchez
President

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