City of Lynwood
A City Meeting Challenges

AIDE CASTRO
Mayor Pro Tem

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All-America City

OFFICE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL

April 29, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Nichols:

I have been notified that you're currently exploring possible implementation procedures for AB32. I am extremely proud that our Speaker of the State Assembly and our Governor has the foresight to pass this landmark legislation that will ensure that our communities, both local and abroad, are protected for generations to come. Global Warming is an issue that until recently was relatively unknown in our communities and most of our constituents were not aware of our current climate change. Thanks to the efforts of leaders like yourself, our Speaker, the Governor, as well as former Vice President Al Gore, who brought visibility to the subject through his epic movie "An Inconvenient Truth" Global Warming is now a relevant subject amongst our constituents and an important environmental issue that we know we need to engage in and help address. We applaud your efforts in implementing this complex policy, but after reading some of the information provided to me, we are concerned about the possible effects that the implementation methods you are considering, would have in our already strapped City Budgets, as well as the personal budgets of our residents.

I understand that in order to reach the 20% reduction goal set forth by AB32, the first sources you would pursue would be those that provide us our electricity, gas, diesel, and natural gas. It is obvious that these are the largest polluting sources and the best targets to hit the reduction goals, but we are concerned that these utilities might "pass the buck" to our communities if forced to implement AB32's mandates.

We would respectfully request that your agency conduct a detailed cost analysis of the proposed implementation methods to help us determine how much higher our costs for electricity and transportation fuels would be.

As you are aware, our State and Local Governments are faced with serious financial hardships and we are facing some difficult times, which may require us to adjust and/or cut some of the vital services we provide.
If AB32's implementation allows these utilities to increase our operating costs, we would be forced to cut programs and services to our residents. We wonder if there is a way to help reach the mandates set forth by AB32, but also protect our residents and City services.

We urge you to please keep our communities and residents in mind when making your final selection and we plead that you take the time to study this process.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Aide Castro
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Lynwood