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MAY 1 2008

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

Re: AB32 Implementation

Dear Ms. Nichols,

It has been brought to my attention that you are currently selecting the appropriate way to implement AB32. It makes us proud that you and our Statewide Elected Officials are proactively engaging on Global Warming and identifying the appropriate ways to combat this problem and protect our communities. I could only image how difficult this process must be for you and your agency, but I am extremely thankful that you are finding the way to protect our environment and communities for generations to come.

I have read up on this issue and there are some concerns that we'd like to share with you. While we support AB 32 and your efforts and we recognize the benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we wonder what would be the consequences for mandating these large utilities to reduce emissions by the rates indicated in AB32. If they are mandated to reduce, and incur a cost, I would assume, what would prevent them from passing that cost to our communities. As we're experiencing right now, the gasoline rates are at the highest they have ever been, and it's becoming an extreme hardship on so many of our members and constituents that depend on their vehicles as means to transport or work. If this situation is happening now without any mandates, how bad will it be when you force them to reduce their emissions?

Our environment is extremely important to our constituency and leadership in our organization. We always advocate for the protection of our natural resources and firmly believe that we must protect for our future generations. With this said, we also understand the current economic situation and wonder how we are going to overcome this financial hardship. We plead for you to research the implementation process and not rush into just any method. Your decision today could potentially harm our communities and families for years to come. If there is any other ways that we can mandate the reductions set forth in AB32 but prohibit these utilities from passing the costs that would be the ideal plan.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns, and please keep our communities in mind when deciding how best to implement AB 32.

Sincerely,

Josefina Herrera
Vice-President