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*"Sirviendo a la Comunidad Latina"*

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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: Community Response to AB32

Dear Ms. Nichols,

I am proud to say that I live in a State that is Championing Climate Change and that our Legislative leadership had the foresight to pass major landmark climate change legislation, AB 32, which clearly shows the rest of our Nation and the world that California continues to lead the way for others, in regards to protecting our environment and communities. AB 32 clearly provides us the opportunity to create the change we need and help improve our environment and hopefully our quality of life.

We are concerned, however, that there sometimes, because of a sense of urgency when planning the implementation of such landmark laws, that our leadership at the state level places a sense of importance on expediency over common sense or the necessary scientific and economic evaluation which is needed to implement policies that will benefit and not affect our great State and communities. I understand the urgency your agency and other agencies must be under to implement these policies and begin to create the change and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and I applaud your work so far, but, we should beware of the potential consequences that could severely harm our families, communities as well as small businesses, particularly those which we serve which are low income and minority communities, if we select the wrong path.

I've read information on the potential processes that can be used to reach AB32 reduction goals and firmly believe that unreasonable, costly implementation deadlines for utilities and other energy providers; inflexible restrictions on vehicles and fuels; arbitrary compliance frameworks and enforcement – all could possible have the potential to cost our communities, along with the revenues they generate in support of local government and community services, upon which we all rely on. While large industries may have more resources available to them to influence the AB 32 implementation process, their voices are no more important than those of the hundreds of thousands of individuals and families that we serve and represent statewide.

We plead for you to take the time and research all options for AB32 implementation and that you consider the option that allows you to reach the reduction goals set forth by AB32, but that you reach them in a way that will not affect our communities bottom line and cause economic hardships in our communities

We hope you will keep the interest of all the state's constituencies in mind as you tackle the enormous job of simultaneously protecting California's environment and the families that call this home.

Sincerely,

Raul Murillo
Director

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