



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

May 2, 2008

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 our statewide elected representatives took the initiative to create policy that would help protect our communities for generations to come. Our trans-generational responsibilities are of the utmost importance to our organization and its leadership, so we congratulate you and your agency for tackling this very complex policy and identifying the proper implementation method. AB32 clearly sets the structure for us to achieve some very ambitious goals that will help create the change needed to protect our environment and inspire others to act with a conscious mind. Global Warming is something that affects our local communities as well as those abroad, and there is a great challenge ahead of us to ensure that we combat this problem and bring about its end.

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. After reviewing the options available, it seems apparent that there is no clear choice. Either route you choose, our communities and constituency will be affected. By mandating these large utilities to reduce emissions by 20% via a forced mandate or Cap and Trade, these utilities will incur costs and I don't see how these utilities will not pass those costs to our communities. This is not easy to bear with. We want to ensure that we protect our environment, but our communities are already dealing with severe economic and social hardships. Gas prices are at an all time high, Grocery costs are increasing every day, many of our families are being separated by unjust immigration raids, and these hardships are severely impacting many of our constituents. I understand that you and your agency must be under sever pressure to implement this policy, but I beg of you to take the time and make sure that you've researched every possible implementation method and that you've clearly identified the appropriate route that will help you reach the reduction goals, but help our communities maintain their quality of life.

I know that our voice might be small, but the voice of the communities and thousands of families we represent matter, and as the head of this organization I plead for you to keep our communities in mind while you make this very difficult decision.

Our members and communities will pray that you find a route that will protect both our environment and way of live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared Rivera".

Jared Rivera
Executive Director