

CVAG

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

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February 26, 2008

Ms. Mary Nichols, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA FAX: (916) 323-2393

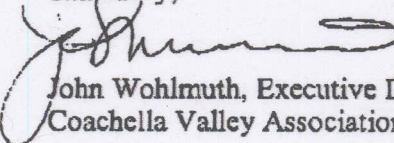
Dear Ms. Nichols:

I am writing about the Proposition 1B Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program funding guidelines that are scheduled for adoption on February 28th, 2008 at your Board meeting. I understand that these guidelines will determine the share of funding received by each trade corridor region in the state. As the Executive Director of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, representing the Executive Committee comprised of the Mayors of ten cities, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and three Tribal Chairs, CVAG would like to ensure that the region which has the largest population of Californians exposed to the most unhealthy air in the nation, receives its fair share of the \$1 Billion approved by voters to mitigate air quality impacts.

Your staff has proposed that 55% of the total amount of \$1 billion Proposition 1B funds for air quality mitigation be allocated to the Los Angeles/Inland Empire transportation corridor. The allocations of funds for this region should be based on the severity of air pollution and the number of people impacted, or in technical terms, population weighted exposure to criteria air pollutants above federal standards for Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) and Ozone. A detailed analysis of the PM2.5 and 8-hour ozone exposure for the South Coast air basin demonstrates that this region bears a full 89% of the population weighted incremental PM2.5 exposure above federal annual standard on a statewide basis. For 8-hour ozone exposure above the federal standard this figure is 74% on a statewide basis.

Based on this information, we believe that up to 80% of the Prop 1B funds should be allocated to Southern California in order to meet the air quality needs of the region. Any allocation lower than the originally proposed 55% to the Los Angeles/ Inland Empire region would not be fair to the people we represent. We appreciate your attention and urge your Board to provide equitable funding to meet the air quality needs of this region.

Sincerely,



John Wohlmuth, Executive Director
Coachella Valley Association of Governments