

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5050  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4007  
FAX (916) 445-2527

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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**TOM TORLAKSON**  
SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



DISTRICT OFFICE  
2801 CONCORD BOULEVARD  
CONCORD, CA 94519  
TEL (925) 602-6593  
FAX (925) 602-6598

JOINT GOVERNMENT CENTER  
420 WEST 3RD STREET  
ANTIOCH, CA 94509  
TEL (925) 754-1461  
FAX (925) 778-5174

WEST COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE  
111 CIVIC DRIVE  
HERCULES, CA 94547  
TEL (800) 859-9900

SENATOR.TORLAKSON@SEN.CA.GOV  
WWW.SEN.CA.GOV/TORLAKSON

February 26, 2008

Mary Nichols, Chair  
California Air Resources Board  
P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chair Nichols:

I am writing to express concern over the allocation of goods movement emission reduction bond funding. I believe that the Bay Area deserves at least 20% of these funds.

In November of 2006, California voters passed Proposition 1B, which allocates \$1 billion to cut emissions from goods movement in California. The Legislature provided guidance to the Air Resources Board (ARB) in last year's Senate Bill 88 (Statutes of 2007; Chapter 181) on the expenditure of these funds. As stated therein:

"It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board maximize the emission reduction benefits, achieve the earliest possible health risk reduction in heavily impacted communities, and provide incentives for the control of emission sources that contribute to increased health risk in the future."

Given this direction, and the overwhelming importance of exposure to diesel particulate matter in determining health risk, I was surprised to learn of the regional funding targets suggested by ARB staff. The Bay Area has 22% of the population in the goods movement corridors, and roughly 20% of California's goods movement emissions of oxides of nitrogen and diesel particulate. Furthermore, the fourth largest port in the United States, the Port of Oakland, is located in our region.

But most significantly, per ARB's own data (The California Almanac of Emissions and Air Quality), the average person in the Bay Area has a significantly higher risk from both diesel particulate and air toxics in general than the average person in the Central Valley. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Torlakson".  
Tom Torlakson

ORIGINAL:  
Copies:

Board Clerk  
Executive Officer  
Chair