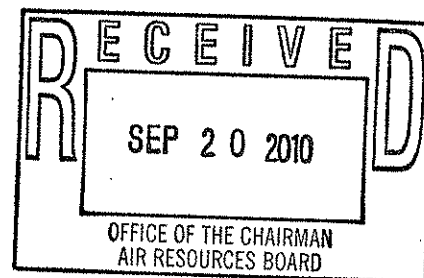




Pam O'Connor
Mayor Pro Tempore

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September 20, 2010

Mary Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95812

Via Fax: 916/ 327-5748

Dear Chair Nichols,

As the Chair of the Los Angeles County Metro Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee, I want to share with you the recent discussions that took place among the members of that committee.

On September 16, the Los Angeles County Metro Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee approved a motion to support the ARB's staff recommended greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for Southern California. Metro, driven by the voter-approved Measure R, is taking significant steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from passenger vehicles consistent with the goals of SB 375. The Measure R program will add 12 new transit lines to our system and be completed in ten years with federal support for our "30-10 Initiative". This program, along with many others being undertaken by the sub-regions, cities, and residents in Los Angeles County, demonstrates that we are and want to continue to be leaders on climate change. The Committee's vote reconfirms this commitment and our intention to put our best foot forward as we begin the process of partnering with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) on development of a Sustainable Communities Strategy for Southern California.

In recommending support for the targets, the Committee members acknowledged that achieving ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets can only be realized if certain conditions and assumptions are met, including strong partnership from the federal and state government. The Committee also recognized that target setting is the first step in a multi-year process, and that we won't know what is achievable until we begin the work on the Sustainable Communities Strategy. We trust that the ARB targets will be adjusted over time as we learn more about what truly is "ambitious, yet achievable." And, we make this recommendation with the understanding that targets, as intended by the legislation, will be used to motivate collaboration and innovation, and not penalize regions who aim high but might fall short of the goal.

While this recommendation had strong support at the committee level, the Los Angeles County Metro Board meeting is scheduled on the same date which your own Board is considering this matter; so we were unable to forward our recommendation to the full Metro Board to obtain what I feel would have been their agreement and endorsement.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. We look forward to working with you towards these goals.

Sincerely,

Pam O'Connor
Mayor Pro Tempore

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