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ROBERT SINSKEY VINEYARDS

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April 22, 2009

Board Members
c/o Clerk of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Comment to Proposed AB 118 Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Funding Plan for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Dear ARB Board Members,

Thank you for your work on AB 118.

This letter is to show Robert Sinskey Vineyard's support for the AQIP Funding Plan and staff's recommendation to include $1.3 million for electric agricultural work vehicles.

As stated in the Funding Plan, AQIP's guiding principles for deployment projects are to: 1) attain ambient air quality standards, 2) choose projects ready for deployment, 3) modify consumer choice, and 4) consider funding needs. Allocating funds to help cover the incremental cost for 100% electric, off-road, work vehicles in agriculture supports those guidelines.

The technology is now available to lower transportation-related emissions from one of the most common pieces of equipment used on farm - the ATV/utility vehicle. Providing a rebate up to $2,500 will give the farming community an extra incentive to support cleaner and more sustainable technologies -- especially since the cost of new technologies can present a significant barrier to their adoption.

As an organic and biodynamic certified vineyard, we are constantly looking for ways to lighten our footprint and lower our carbon emissions; the electric ATV/utility vehicle we plan to purchase from Barefoot Motors will greatly contribute towards this goal. A $2,500 rebate would help us to afford the cost of replacing all three of our gas ATVs with zero-emission electric ones.

I strongly urge you to support and adopt staff's recommendation for the zero-emission agricultural utility terrain vehicle rebate project at the proposed funding allocation of $1.3 million. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Debby Zygielbaum
Vineyard Manager