



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

August 6, 2018

Mary D. Nichols  
Chair, California Air Resources Board  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Support for San Bernardino/Muscoy in Year 1 of the Community Air Protection Plan**

Dear Chair Nichols:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support the nomination of San Bernardino/Muscoy for selection as a "Year 1" community under Assembly Bill 617 (Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017), and its Community Air Protection Program.

AB 617 specifies that the highest priority areas shall be disadvantaged communities with a high cumulative exposure burden for criteria pollutants and/or toxic air contaminants.

San Bernardino/Muscoy ranks in the 99.7<sup>th</sup> percentile under CalEnvironScreen 3.0, and residents there live in close proximity to a major rail yard and the burgeoning logistics industry, and the additional warehouses and truck traffic it generates.

As required by AB 617 and CARB guidelines, there is already a strong foundation based on previous monitoring, health studies and community involvement.

The community was one of two selected for the Clean Communities Plan, which involved outreach to residents and small businesses to cooperatively reduce local emissions of toxics and criteria pollutants. The cancer risk was studied as part of South Coast AQMD's Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Studies (MATES III and IV), and as you know, MATES V is now under way. Air pollution is a regional problem but the San Bernardino area records some of the highest levels of ozone and particulate pollution in the country, as pollution generated in the coastal region moves east and combines with locally generated emissions.

SCAQMD also funded the Environmental Railyard Research Impacting Community Health (ENRRICH) study, which was a community health assessment and public health outreach project led by the late Dr. Sam Soret of Loma Linda University. These efforts provide unique information that will help to inform AB 617 efforts to further improve air quality in this disadvantaged area. This community would serve as a statewide model for what can be done near rail yards, which may include exposure reduction in addition to emission reductions. That meets CARB guidelines for programs that can be transferred to other communities with impacts from freight-related activities.

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There is history of involvement and collaboration between multiple stakeholders to improve health outcomes for the residents of San Bernardino and Muscoy. It is also important to note a local environmental justice group is participating in South Coast AQMD's Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center (AQ-SPEC) program, again putting the area out front for monitoring.

Based on the strong history of monitoring, research, collaboration and the profound needs of residents in this community, San Bernardino/Muscoy more than qualifies to be named as a Year 1 community.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests that San Bernardino/Muscoy be selected as a Year 1 community under the AB 617 Community Air Protection Plan. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov).

Sincerely,



ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD  
Chairman and First District Supervisor  
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors



JOSIE GONZALES  
Fifth District Supervisor  
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation