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EDWARD R. ROYCE

Thirty-ninth District-California

March 11, 2016

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

RE: Southern California Consolidation Project's Site Location

Dear Chair Nichols:

I am writing to express my support for Pomona being the Air Resources Board (ARB) site location. I have been closely following the status of ARB's Southern California Consolidation Project as the results will impact my District. As you are aware, the ARB Staff Report Analysis of Sites for the Southern California Relocation Project document released February 11, 2016, recommended the Pomona site as the proposed location for ARB.

Allowing ARB to relocate to Riverside could prove costly for the State. As the Staff Report indicated, ARB pay relocation expenses may be higher if the site was moved to Riverside. The Staff Report also specifies that a move to Riverside would "likely involve relocation, resignation, or retirement of ARB employees," given the differences in driving commutes and long public transit commutes. Keeping ARB in Los Angeles (LA) County "would likely retain more of ARB's existing and highly trained workforce necessary to support ARB's ability to carry out its responsibilities" and "would be much less disruptive to ARB's operations because there would [be] less disruption to ARB employees." Relocating to Riverside would cause undue financial burdens and longer term concerns for ARB in maintaining their quality staff and relatedly the outstanding services ARB provides.

Furthermore, the Staff Report makes clear the ARB employees' preference, with "approximately 85% of the respondents prefer[ing] the Pomona site." They cited commute distance and time, the impact a move to Riverside would make on their personal lives and families, and the impact to their work.

For these reasons, I support ARB remaining in LA County. It makes economic and operational sense, and is consistent with the will of your employees. If you need additional information, please contact me or my staff at (714) 255-0101.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE