



CASA FAMILIAR

A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

April 26, 2023

California Air Resource Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Board,

I am writing to express Casa Familiar's strong support for Advanced Clean Fleets regulation. As a non-profit organization that has served the border community of San Ysidro for the last 50 years, we believe that this regulation has the potential to bring significant direct benefits to our community and the state of California as a whole. Casa Familiar is widely recognized for understanding the unique challenges faced by residents in the border region and provides 40+ services and projects to address these issues with a multi-dimensional benefit approach.

Diesel pollution from medium and heavy-duty trucks severely impacts the communities adjacent to the U.S./Mexico border land crossings such as Otay Mesa and San Ysidro, the marine terminals in Barrio Logan and National City and throughout environmental justice (EJ) communities where residential communities are adjacent to industrial operations. Otay Mesa is a growing commercial and industrial hub, with nearby residential units and schools. According to the Bureau of Transportation, in 2022, roughly 1.05 million trucks alone crossed the Otay Mesa POE which is ranked the 3rd highest port of entry in North America, San Ysidro POE sits in first place for its passenger vehicle traffic.

The San Diego International Border Community was selected as an AB617 community because of these serious impacts. The San Ysidro and Otay Mesa border crossings, and Interstate 905 carry thousands of trucks a day which are the primary sources of this pollution. The community is directly exposed to this pollution, especially children, given that multiple schools in the community are located next to the freeways.

This regulation will bring direct positive impacts to our community's environmental and public health, it will aid in California's ability to achieve our climate goals and it will lead to our most impacted communities across the states to break the cycle of perpetuated environmental racism by diminishing the harmful concentration of pollution sources in communities of color.

We urge you to adopt this resolution.

Thank you,

Alejandro Amador
Environmental Programs Manager