



November 30, 2017

Via e-mail to: Veronica.Eady@arb.ca.gov,
Veronica Eady, Assistant Executive Officer for Environmental Justice
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street Sacramento, CA

CC: California Air Resources Board Members
Via e-mail to: cotb@arb.ca.gov

Re: Comments on the Community Air Protection Program AB617 in Southern California's Inland Valley

Dear Ms. Eady;

We welcome the California Air Resources Board (CARB)'s commitment to alleviating the burden of pollution on California's most impacted communities through the implementation of the Community Air Protection Program AB 617. Communities throughout California suffer immense threats from a variety of sources of air pollution. Some communities are harmed by pollution from stationary sources like refineries and powerplants. Some communities are harmed by mobile sources of air pollution like trucks, ships, and trains that carry goods through our state. And some of our communities are harmed by both of these sources of pollution. In order to address these burdens we understand the need to have comprehensive data to create a foundations for systemic changes that will reduce burdens faced by California's frontline communities.

In the Inland Valley our communities are faced with some of the nation's worst air quality and our residents suffer from chronic disease as a result. Air Quality burdens and data collection are not new to the Inland Valley region, for decades now, academic, regulatory and community based organizations have collected data through comprehensive health studies, air monitoring programs and community based ground truthing.

The source of our region's greatest pollution burden is clear, Southern California's primary freight network, carrying 40% of all goods in our nation, runs through the heart of our region and with this immense movement of goods our region has also seen our Air Quality steadily deteriorate as freight congestion becomes a norm. The source of pollution has been verified and community impacts analyzed and documented, our region has a unique opportunity to

immediately begin development of and implementation of community specific emissions reductions plans. In the Inland Valley we need strong and clear regulatory frameworks and enforcement mechanisms to ensure results and clean the dirtiest air in the nation. Serious efforts to regulate freight activities are required to meet basic health-based air quality standards and to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

In these coming months we welcome the opportunity to work closely with CARB staff, staff from our South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to develop and implement these plans. Specifically the communities of Mira Loma Village in Western Riverside County and the West Side of San Bernardino City are two communities that have been studied and monitored for decades. Various Community Based Organizations have worked closely with impacted residents and SCAQMD staff to identify immediate mitigation measures. These communities are ready to begin the challenging task of working with SCAQMD and CARB to implement community specific reduction plans within the Community Air Protection Program-AB617 framework.

We look forward to joint collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michele Hasson", is written over a light blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michele Hasson, Policy Director
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice