

From: rachelann1966@gmail.com@mq.gospringboard.io on behalf of [Rachel Rovine](#)
To: [Nichols, Mary D. @ARB](#)
Subject: Reject pay-to-pollute schemes -- we need REAL climate solutions!
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 11:02:41 AM

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Dear Governor Newsom and the California Air Resources Board,

I urge you to reject pay-to-pollute schemes like the Tropical Forest Standard proposal.

Protecting tropical forests is important, but there's little reason to believe that the Tropical Forest Standard proposal considered by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will result in protecting forest or reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

What we DO know is that carbon pricing programs can allow Big Oil to continue fracking, drilling and refining in California. We also know offsets are difficult, if not impossible, to enforce, leaving questions about any actual gains in forest preservation or greenhouse gas reductions. And to make matters worse, other forest offset programs have been used to force indigenous people off their land.

Analysis of California's cap-and-trade program has shown that offsets have actually been used by polluters to increase emissions in low-income California communities. This further exacerbates health problems in these already disadvantaged communities.

We need you to show real climate leadership by backing plans that will rapidly transition our state to clean, renewable energy and rejecting offset scams like the Tropical Forest Standard that will keep us hooked on fossil fuels.

I urge you to reject the proposed Tropical Forest Standard, and instead support a ban on all new fossil fuel infrastructure and rapidly transition California to 100% clean, renewable energy.

Sincerely,

Rachel Rovine