

February 19, 2019

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

Subject: Support for Zero Emission Airport Shuttle Rule

Dear Chair Nichols,

On behalf of the American Lung Association in California, I am writing to express our support for the Zero-Emission Airport Shuttle Regulation proposal being considered by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The proposal is an important step forward in the transition to zero emission technologies to reduce harmful pollution from transportation sources.

Largely due to transportation emissions, Californians face some of the most difficult air pollution challenges in the United States. Millions of Californians face increased risks of respiratory and cardiovascular health impacts due to unhealthy air, and all steps must be taken to reduce these burdens. These challenges often fall too heavily on lower income communities due to major, local sources of harmful pollution. The transportation sector is also the leading source of climate pollution in California, which saw emissions increases among transportation sources despite overall reductions in climate pollution statewide.

The transition to zero emission transportation, coupled with the implementation of California's 100 percent clean energy goal, will usher in cleaner air and healthier communities – especially those most highly impacted by local pollution sources. Recently, dozens of California health and medical organizations endorsed the [California Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity](#) that specifically calls for zero emission transportation – including zero emission airport shuttles – among the key actions to be taken to protect public health. Similarly, over 100 medical professionals endorsed the airport shuttle rule in a previous letter to CARB ([link](#)) as a key to actions to protect public health, air quality and our environment through zero emission transportation policies.

The Zero-Emission Airport Shuttle Regulation is a commitment identified in the State Implementation Plan to help California achieve health-protective air quality standards and we must move forward this commitment to clean the air. Starting with reporting requirements in 2022, the phase in to one-thirds zero emission shuttles by 2027, two-thirds by 2031 and 100 percent zero emission fleets by 2035 provides certainty in this critical transition. The rule guards against backsliding by ensuring that fleets don't revert to combustion technologies in the future and ensures that there is flexibility as the program ramps up. Significant state funding sources have become available to support early adoption of the technologies and set a strong foundation for moving through the rulemaking implementation.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to technologies and policies needed to achieve clean air for Californians.

Sincerely,



Will Barrett
Director, Clean Air Advocacy

Sacramento

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