Good afternoon, I am Mike Ippoliti, Public Project Manager for Volvo Group North America and based in Southern California. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments in support of the Stockton AB617 Community Emissions Reduction Program or CERP.

The Volvo Group is supportive of the strategies proposed within the CERP to reduce emissions impacts from heavy-duty mobile sources. We believe our GROCER Project, proposed under the recent joint CARB-CEC GFO-20-606 Zero-Emission Drayage Truck and Infrastructure Pilot Project, has the potential to advance many outcomes of the Stockton CERP. The project will deploy 50 Class 8 Volvo VNR Electric trucks, charging infrastructure, extensive workforce development and significant local community engagement activities in the northern central valley region. GROCER includes workforce and ZEV curriculum development, knowledge sharing, and community engagement activities with many local and regional partners including the Environmental Justice Project, Valley Vision, Opportunity Stanislaus, the California Mobility Center, New Voices Are Rising, ChargerHelp!, and Build Momentum. These efforts build on the lessons learned from our ongoing Volvo LIGHTS Project to maximize the impacts of this funding. The GROCER Project will be an unparalleled opportunity to demonstrate the value of proactive and intentional community collaboration.

The Volvo Group and the GROCER Project Team are appreciative of the support from the Air Resources Board and for the state’s recent allocation of funding in the FY 2022 State Budget to enable our project to move forward. We look forward to implementing the GROCER Project with direct engagement and support from the Stockton AB617 Community.

Thank you.

Michael Ippoliti

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