



February 25, 2016

Mary Nichols
Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chairwoman Nichols:

On behalf of Solarmax Technology, Inc., I write to express my concern regarding the recently-released California Air Resources Board "Staff Report: Analysis of Sites for the Southern California Consolidation Project" that recommends the El Monte facility be relocated to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly) instead of the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

In reading the report, it appears that the staff recommendation ultimately chose Cal Poly solely based on proximity to the current El Monte facility. While the current staff sentiment of commute time is indeed an important factor, the framing of the timing and transition period did not seem to be presented in obtaining their opinions. Therefore, we feel that a re-evaluation should occur. Moreover, the staff sentiment and commute distance for current employees should be only one of the factors based in the analysis of the long term impacts for a CARB relocation. A cost analysis of the sites (which was not included in the staff report), the research merit of the host institution, and interactions with industry and the public should all be important considerations in this decision for the long-term benefit to the State of California and its residents. As a representative of the renewable energy industry and as someone familiar with the CARB-related research conducted at both Cal Poly and UCR, I can assure you that CARB stands to benefit significantly more from being located at UCR. Not only is UCR's Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) a national leader in understanding atmospheric processes, alternative fuels and emissions, smart transportation and connected vehicles, they also have a budding School of Medicine focused on the health of our community and a School of Public Policy to offer ample education and joint research opportunities that align closely with CARB's mission. There is really no comparison.

Solarmax Technology, Inc. has worked closely with CE-CERT by sponsoring the Solar Energy Conference and the recent Science Technology Education Partnership (STEP) Convention, and together promoting solar technology and renewable energy in the City of Riverside. It would be a great pleasure to have CARB relocated to UCR and get an opportunity to build a mutually beneficial relationship.



I urge you to take a critical look at the staff report and its underlying motives. Finally, I respectfully request the CARB Board select UCR as the site for the new CARB facility.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 951-300-0788 or chingl@solarmaxtech.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ching Ltu", written over a vertical line that extends from the "Sincerely," text.

Ching Ltu
Executive Vice President