April 4, 2022

To: CARB
From: Muriel Strand, P.E.
Re: 2022 Scoping Plan Update Modeling Scenarios Workshop

Product packaging entails a substantial amount of embedded kwhr and GHG emissions, especially single-use and individual-size products. Modern supply chains would be impossible without the paper and plastic packaging we throw away every day.

A model that can accurately calculate those quantities as a function of various types of products and lengths of supply chains would help regulators, consumers and businesses pinpoint unnecessary energy use and CO2 emissions. As well, reducing packaging would reduce landfill methane emissions.

Historically, many products weren’t packaged but instead provided directly to purchasers upon request. Older staff may remember Newbert’s Hardware, where BevMo is now, and their traditional counter service. This tradition points to a trade-off between jobs and packaging.

For individual products and commodities, ratios of price in dollars to embedded kwhr and/or GHG emissions may facilitate analysis and correlate with differences in appropriate policies.