



BreatheSoCal.org

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May 27, 2021

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Electrify America's Cycle 3 Investment Plan

Dear Members of the California Air Resources Board,

Breathe Southern California expresses strong support for Electrify America's Cycle 3 California ZEV Investment Plan. This investment of \$200 million over 30 months puts us on a better path to incentivize the transition away from harmful diesel, reduce emissions that cause air pollution and exacerbate the climate crisis, and improve our public health outcomes.

Breathe Southern California is a nonprofit organization that seeks to improve lung health and air quality for California residents via education, research, advocacy, and technology. For several decades, Breathe Southern California has been at the forefront of advancing the discourse for lung health and air quality. We are committed to promoting community health services through prevention, education, and early diagnosis for low-income and underserved individuals and families suffering from respiratory-related chronic diseases, including asthma, lung disease, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Harmful diesel pollution is a significant contributor to the more than 17 million residents in the South Coast region having to breathe some of the most polluted air in the entire country, including the highest levels of ozone (deriving from Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)) and the second-highest levels of particulate matter (PM). Making significant investments in clean technologies will help reduce harmful NOx and PM emissions. Moreover, diesel vehicles contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and the overall climate crisis. Transportation accounts for 40 percent of California's greenhouse gas emissions, and of those transportation sector emissions, as much as 70 percent of smog-causing pollution and 80 percent of PM are from diesel trucks. Plainly, we must replace diesel trucks with clean trucks.

A key component of this investment plan is the investment of \$25 million in a Green City program in the Long Beach-Wilmington community, which is home to the San Pedro Bay Port Complex that is served by a fleet of more than 18,000 drayage trucks. Neighborhoods in this region, which are predominately Black, Brown, and low-income, are significantly impacted by the diesel pollution, particularly from the drayage trucks. We must invest in communities that disproportionately bear the brunt of diesel pollution and make sure that our investments are targeted and equitable.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at RDhillon@breathesocal.org or (323) 935-8050 x233. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raj Dhillon".

Raj Dhillon
Senior Manager, Advocacy & Public Policy