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Assembly  
California Legislature



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August 28, 2015

Attn: Shelby Livingston, Branch Chief, Climate Investments  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Cap & Trade Funding for the California Green Business Network

Dear Ms. Livingston,

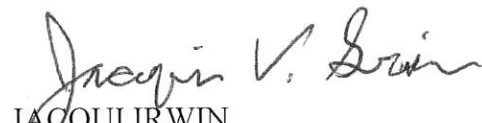
I am writing to express my support for using Cap & Trade investment plan funds to support and develop the California Green Business Network (CaGBN).

The California Green Business Network Certification Programs provide technical assistance to small-to-medium sized businesses that provide multiple environmental benefits that help grow the green economy through adoption of best practices and creating a marketplace for Certified Green Businesses. Small businesses are an integral part of the California economy and must be incorporated into our Cap-and-Trade development so that we can meet our energy goals while sustaining a diversified economy.

As mayor and city councilmember, I helped to secure funding and developed a CaGBN program in the City of Thousand Oaks. I have seen first-hand the impact this program has at the local level, allowing businesses to think comprehensively about going green and seeing the investments as a money-saving strategy rather than a costly inconvenience. Statewide the effect is magnified; these programs now cover 40% of the population and have certified over 2,800 businesses and the businesses have saved over 822,677 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

These programs provide on-site assistance to businesses, help businesses adopt leading edge greenhouse gas reduction practices, verify improvements, and generate reliable outcome metrics using state and federal GHG calculators. As a State Assemblymember and green business advocate, I urge the California Air Resources Board to support this program.

Sincerely,

  
JACQUI IRWIN  
Assemblymember, 44<sup>th</sup> District

