



November 9, 2021

California Air Resources Board
9528 Telstar Ave
El Monte, CA 91731

Dear California Air Resources Board:

I write this letter to voice my support for a strong Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation (“CHC”) that protects public health and moves our communities forward in the fight for clean air. Harbor crafts, especially those that have been in service for long periods of time, are major emitters of diesel particulate matter. This form of pollution harms your lungs, weakens your immune system, and causes ground-level ozone, which can reach unhealthy levels on hot days. We can move forward on the path to a zero-emission future by making investments in zero emission boats and ships.

I speak in solidarity with a host of public officials and advocacy organizations to articulate the need to prioritize addressing diesel particulate matter emissions from harbor craft across the state of California. I am in support of the proposed rule amendment brought forward by CARB staff and urge its adoption. The impact of this rule is immense, as CARB staff have cited, it can avoid over 500 premature deaths statewide by decreasing diesel particulate matter by approximately 90%.

I’m asking you to adopt a strong rule for Commercial Harbor Craft that:

1. Moves forward with a rule to advance zero-emission technology and cleans up the dirtiest engines in other commercial harbor craft categories.
2. Sets all ferries, tugboats, dredges, and barges on an electrification pathway right now and require full electrification by 2035.
3. Directs staff to revisit the rule with the Board as the zero-emissions boat market evolves to ensure the regulation achieves maximum emission reductions
4. Increases funding for zero-emissions boat pilots, retrofits, and new vessels to spur innovation
5. Provides the appropriate funding for the implementation of best available technology to the regulated entities

Let’s keep California on a path towards innovation and clean air.

Sincerely,

Rex Richardson
Vice Mayor, City of Long Beach