



June 19, 2020

Mary D. Nichols  
Chair, California Air Resources Board  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Board Item 20-6-1: Public Meeting to Consider Proposed 70 Parts Per Billion Ozone State Implementation Plan Submittal**

Dear Chair Nichols and members of the California Air Resources Board (CARB),

The Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) is resubmitting our coalition letter dated October 2, 2019, titled "Lack of Progress Toward Meeting Air Quality Standards in South Coast Air Basin." We remain concerned about the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) ability to reach attainment of national air quality standards through the District's current strategy, which overly relies on incentive dollars that do not exist and are not likely to materialize.

The air quality challenges facing the South Coast Air Basin are well known. Yet again, the Basin is the most ozone-polluted region in the nation.<sup>1</sup> While Southern Californians enjoyed cleaner air earlier this year due to rainy weather and the COVID-19 response, poor air quality has since returned to the region, which experienced an ozone spike in during the Spring.<sup>2</sup> While the drivers of these short-term air quality trends merit further investigation, these fluctuations underscore the need for more aggressive strategies which will yield deeper, permanent emissions reductions.

For these reasons, we reiterate the call for CARB to create a South Coast Air Basin working group to monitor progress on Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) implementation and determine how to make that plan's promises a reality.

Thank you again for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Chavez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Chavez  
Deputy Policy Director

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<sup>1</sup> American Lung Association, "State of the Air Report 2019: Most Polluted Cities", <http://www.stateoftheair.org/city-rankings/most-polluted-cities.html> (accessed June 19, 2020.)

<sup>2</sup> South Coast Air Quality Management District, "Emission Reductions and Air Quality Impacts from the COVID-19 Pandemic Response", <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/Agendas/Governing-Board/2020/2020-jun5-024.pdf?sfvrsn=6>, slides 7-8, 13 (accessed June 19, 2020.)