

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF KERN**

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KATHLEEN KRAUSE
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Kern County Administrative Center
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February 9, 2021

California Air Resources Board
Community Air Protection Program
Ms. Trish Johnson
CommunityAir@arb.ca.gov

**Re: Assembly Bill 617 - Selection of 2020 Communities
Kern County Support and Participation – Unincorporated Lamont Community**

Dear Ms. Johnson,

The Kern County Board of Supervisors support the selection of the City of Arvin and the community of Lamont (unincorporated) for the next air protection plan. Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and air districts to develop and implement additional emissions reporting, monitoring, reduction plans and measures in an effort to reduce air pollution exposure in disadvantaged communities. The community of Lamont is surrounded by urban uses in the City of Bakersfield as well as rural industries and transportation corridors that may have specific sources of pollution that could benefit from additional air mitigation funding once a plan is developed.

In coordination with the City of Arvin, this program would provide new thinking on development of industries and job creation in the area and new sources of funding for mitigating air emissions as well as monitoring and identification of problematic and health risk sources. The Board supports representation on the advisory stakeholder group to include all community members including individual farmers and other property owners from the included areas.

Supervisor Couch, (District 4) who represents these areas and the Board supports this focus as consistent with our commitment to keeping business accountable, cleaning up our air and providing for economic opportunities for all our communities. Our Planning and Natural Resources Director, Lorelei Oviatt, AICP (Loreleio@kerncounty.com) will be the point of contact for our participation in the plan if the communities are selected.

Thank you for your commitment to healthy communities here in Kern County.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip Peters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Phillip" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Peters".

Phillip Peters
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
County of Kern, State of California

Cc: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District – AB 617
Programsjvapcd@valleyair.org