

May 26, 2020

Mary Nichols, Chair, California Air Resources Board

1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Support for Advanced Clean Trucks Rule**

Dear Chair Nichols and Members of the Board,

**San Diego 350** urges you to approve the proposed updated Advanced Clean Trucks (“ACT”) Rule, which will catalyze California’s transition to freight transportation with clean energy.

San Diego 350 is a climate education and advocacy organization that promotes clean energy, energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, land use policies, environmental justice and pollution control while transitioning away from fossil fuels in order to reduce the effects of climate change. We feel that the conversion of heavy trucks to battery- electric and fuel cell technologies is a crucial part of creating a better environment and reducing climate risks.

During the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, we feel that it is crucial to enact legislation to improve the health of Californians. CARB’s own cost-benefit analysis predicts that up to $8.9 billion can be saved through 2040 in avoided deaths and hospitalization for respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. Additionally, the decrease in emissions of CO2, methane and NOx will reduce the effects of climate change and resulting health effects. Since trucking operations are often located in poorer neighborhoods, these actions will also promote environmental justice.

Although there may be some upfront equipment and infrastructure costs, CARB’s analysis shows that the ultimate trucking savings could be about $6 million through 2040 due to significant fuel and maintenance savings. The adoption of the ACT Rule will allow fleet and vehicle operators, along with members of the public, to reap the health, economic and environmental benefits of clean freight transportation as soon as possible.

In conclusion, CARB’s own analysis demonstrates the multiple societal benefits realized by clean freight transportation, and the revised rule works to greatly accelerate these benefits. In conjunction with many other climate, environmental and environmental justice groups and labor unions, San Diego 350 urges you to approve the ACT rule as written.

Sincerely,

Elaine Maltz

Elizabeth Chopp

San Diego 350 Legislative Committee co-chairs