



May 24, 2018

Chair Nichols & Members of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Agenda Item No. 18-4-4: Support for Zero Emission Investments in Volkswagen (VW) Settlement Proposal

Dear Chair Nichols and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Los Angeles County Electric Bus Coalition, we provide comments on the Board's proposed investment plan for the VW settlement. We applaud the proposal to invest a large portion of the funds in electric transit buses and school buses. Advancing electric transit and school buses has been a critical part of our coalition's work. As such, we think this investment in electric buses will provide a jolt to cleaning up pollution in Los Angeles County. We also support working to ensure the vehicles funded through the VW settlement are produced with good jobs.

We wholeheartedly agree with the conclusion in the proposed investment plan that -

Throughout California, transit, school, and shuttle bus fleets have demonstrated that (1) zero-emission technology is readily available; and (2) there is significant market demand for zero-emission bus technology.¹

Thus, investing \$130 million dollars for zero emissions transit buses, school buses, and shuttle buses makes a lot of sense. Also, given the fact that these buses are ones that travel through our neighborhoods and transport our children to school, these are good investments. This investment will pay huge dividends in further catalyzing the already great momentum in electric buses and shuttles in California. As transit agency after transit agency is seeing the wisdom of committing to a 100% zero emission bus future, now is the time to really focus resources.

Finally, we encourage the Air Resources Board to move quickly on finishing the Innovative Clean Transit rule. The Board is providing large investments of incentive and settlement dollars to deploy hundreds of new buses right now. A regulatory signal will be very

¹ California Air Resources Board, Proposed Beneficiary Mitigation Plan for the VW Settlement, at 19 (April 20, 2018).

useful in driving down the costs of buses and ensuring all Californians have the benefits of the cleanest technologies in their communities.

We appreciate the work of the California Air Resources Board to advance zero emission projects in communities impacted by freight. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have question.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adrian L. Martinez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adrian" and last name "Martinez" clearly legible.

Adrian Martinez
Erica Martinez
Earthjustice

Michelle Kinman
Environment California

Jennifer Kropke
IBEW Local Union 11

Abhilasha Bhola
Jobs to Move America

Carlo De La Cruz
Sierra Club

cc: Richard Corey, Executive Officer
Veronica Eady, Assistant Executive Officer for Environmental Justice