

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2016

Mary Nichols
Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chairwoman Nichols,

As members of the Inland Empire congressional delegation, we write to support the University of California, Riverside (UCR), as the future location of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) facility, currently located in El Monte.

While we realize CARB staff stated they prefer the location at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly) in the "Staff Report: Analysis of Sites for the Southern California Consolidation Project" on February 12, the recommendation appears to be based solely on proximity to El Monte and not based on the long-term interests of the state of California. The Riverside Public Utilities estimates in the first year alone that there would be \$610,000 in savings from lower electricity costs and \$275,000 in ongoing savings.

We must consider what is truly best for the State of California, and that means CARB must be located at a strong research institution with a commitment and a history of air-quality research, of working with CARB, and of informing state and federal air quality regulations. That institution is, of course, UCR. Not only has UCR been a national leader in this area, partnering closely with CARB, South Coast Air Quality Management District, and U.S. EPA, but it is also the Inland Empire's flagship research university.

UCR's Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) leads the way in air-quality research, focusing on vehicle emissions and fuels research, atmospheric processes, transportation research, and more. In fact, CE-CERT's \$23.16 million in active research grants is more than four times the amount of overall research and development expenditures at Cal Poly in 2014. That same year, UCR's overall research and development expenditures were nearly 25 times that of Cal Poly's. Furthermore, nearly 13 percent of CE-CERT's research grants are from CARB. UCR and CE-CERT's capabilities coupled with UCR's new School of Medicine allow for air quality and health effects to be studied in the Inland Empire as has never been done before.

We all know that improving our air-quality cannot come without the scientific research, like that conducted at UCR. In addition, that research, combined with regular synergistic interactions resulting from CARB located at UCR would only further research in this field and thereby improve public health. In September 2015, the South Coast Air Quality Management District

agreed to a proposed \$1 million endowment for CE-CERT if CARB selects Riverside as the site for the new facility.

Considering the region is in full support of CARB relocating to Riverside, we ask that you do what is best for the people of Southern California and their health. We strongly recommend the CARB facility at El Monte be relocated to UCR.

Sincerely,



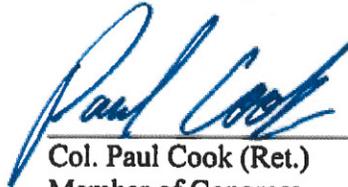
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert
Member of Congress



Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress