

November 8, 2021

Comment letter submitted via electronic commenting system

Clerk of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Association of California Water Agencies' Comments on Draft Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Fourth Investment Plan

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) appreciates the opportunity to provide public comments to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in response to the recent Draft Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Fourth Investment Plan (Draft Plan). ACWA represents more than 460 public water agencies that collectively deliver approximately 90 percent of the water in California for domestic, agricultural, and industrial uses. We strongly support the continued use of the funding to help finance local agencies to achieve the state's ambitious climate goals while continuing to provide safe and affordable drinking water, and maintaining public health through sustainable infrastructure that meet our members' needs. We appreciate the work that CARB staff has done to consider and incorporate stakeholder input into the Draft Plan.

ACWA member agencies have been working diligently as key partners in the State's environmental and clean energy goals as the state seeks to achieve many ambitious goals as described in AB 1532, and AB 398. Thus, ACWA is supportive of the inclusion of the following priorities in the Draft Plan:

- **Sustainable Transportation:** ACWA members are participating with CARB on the development of an Advanced Clean Fleets Rule to include the timing of commercially available vehicles and associated installed electrical infrastructure.
- **Low Carbon Energy, Buildings, and Industry:** ACWA members actively research where zero-emission technologies, and low carbon energy sources fit into operations to maintain reliability of critical services.
- **Natural and Working Lands:** ACWA members across the state are working to protect and restore California's headwaters and watersheds through innovative partnerships with local, state, and federal stakeholders and by advocating for improved forest management practices.
- **Wildfire Mitigation:** ACWA members are mutual aid partners dispatching crews and equipment to regions in need, collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies as well as nonprofits and corporations to reduce the fuel-loading in our forests and restore the healthy function and resiliency of these watersheds, and removing biomass fuel sources.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this very important Draft Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact me at nickb@acwa.com or (916) 441-4545, if you have any questions regarding ACWA's input.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Blair
Regulatory Advocate

cc: The Honorable Liane Randolph, Chair, California Air Resources Board
The Honorable Sandra Berg, Vice Chair, California Air Resources Board
Mr. Richard Corey, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board
Ms. Jennifer Gress, Division Chief, Sustainable Transportation and Communities Division,
California Air Resources Board
Mr. Dave Eggerton, Executive Director, Association of California Water Agencies
Ms. Cindy Tuck, Deputy Executive Director for Government Relations, Association of
California Water Agencies