



September 28, 2016

California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Executive Order to Reduce Greenhouse Gases 80% by 2050 - OPPOSE

Dear California Air Resources Board,

The Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) opposes the current policy proposition to reduce California's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2050. Such a policy overrides the legislative process and jeopardizes critical voter approved infrastructure projects in the state.

This drastic reduction in GHG emissions is unnecessary for California, a state that contributes less than 1 percent of global GHG emissions. While this policy will have a negligible effect on climate change, it will prove to have catastrophic effects on local businesses and development projects. These GHG reductions will create major new constraints on the land use planning and approval authority of local elected leaders and voters. Implementing such a policy will increase litigation risks, costs and delays of projects. The impact of this policy will be extended to all Californians by eliminating quality jobs, increase housing prices and upsurge traffic congestion.

There are voter approved transportation and land use projects which comply with current emission requirements that will be thwarted under these new reduction levels. The state has an obligation to spend taxpayer money where voters approve their investments to go. California is in much need of improvements to transportation infrastructure and is still suffering a housing shortage. Implementing these proposals after the close of the Legislative session foretells that no agency intends to disclose or seek input on these radical new policy proposals from any elected member of the Legislature.

Such extreme climate policies affecting the lives of every Californian deserve the proper legislative review process. It is therefore imperative that this harmful policy and its subsequent priorities to expand burdensome California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regulations are withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Kevin Tamaki
VICA Chairman

Stuart Waldman
VICA President