## YOUR WAY FUMIGATION, INC.

1660 Chicago Ave. N9 Riverside, CA 92507 Phone: 800-526-8194

December 21, 2022

Mary Jane Coombs Branch Chief, Industrial Strategies Division California Air Resources Board 1001 | Street, P.O. Box 2828 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Coombs:

I am writing to voice my concerns about a petition recently filed with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) asking CARB to phase out the use of sulfuryl fluoride in California. I want to emphasize the tremendous personal and economic impact that banning sulfuryl fluoride will have on my family, my employees, and others in the structural fumigation industry, as well as California, and respectfully request that CARB deny the petition.

Sulfuryl fluoride fumigation plays a major role in California's real estate economy by eliminating pest infestations that cause structural damage to buildings and create safety risks for building occupants. Sulfuryl fluoride fumigation is critical to preserving California's real estate industry, preserving affordable housing, and creating jobs and economic stability for people like me, my father, and others in the structural fumigation industry.

My father came to the United States from Mexico in 1984 and worked hard build what is now a successful business, Your Way Fumigation. Since he took over Your Way Fumigation in 2003, we have been grown a Los Angeles area company to a business that now performs professional fumigations from San Diego to the Sacramento region.

We rely on sulfuryl fluoride fumigation to treat homes, apartments, senior housing, libraries, homeless shelters, and businesses. In our extensive experience, there are no pest control treatments as effective as sulfuryl fluoride for whole structure infestations or infestations in hard-to-reach areas. Our pest control services improve people's lives, especially those in disadvantaged communities, by improving their living conditions and keeping them safe. We are honored to serve our community in this way. We cannot continue to provide these essential services or survive as a business if we are forced to use fewer effective alternatives that result in rebounding infestations and higher costs for our customers.

I am part of my family's second generation, building on the business foundation my father created to ensure the future success of my family, our company, and our company's employees and their families. Over the years our company has employed hundreds of workers, most of whom are Latino. Most structural fumigation companies (over 70 percent), like ours, are Latino owned and operated. We provide jobs, training, and upward mobility for immigrants and Latinos. Entry level employees start with a salary of about \$45,000 and those who work their way up to management positions can earn as much as \$118,000 per year.

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On behalf of my family, our employees, and others in the structural fumigation industry, please consider the devastating personal and economic impact that banning sulfuryl fluoride in California would have on my family, our employees, and other Latino- or minority-owned structural fumigation companies.

Please contact me at (951) 232-2388 or <u>heidi@ywfumigation.com</u> if you have any questions. I am happy to meet with you or your staff to answer any questions and discuss our business, the structural fumigation industry, and the wide-reaching impacts of CARB's decision.

Sincerely,

Heidi Aguilar Alvarez

Cc: Julie.Henderson@cdpr.ca.gov Karen.Morrison@cdpr.ca.gov