

USRED

February 19, 2024

Chair Liane Randolph and Members of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **Comments on the Proposed Amendments to the Low Carbon Fuel Standard**

Dear Chair Randolph and Members of the Board:

US Renewable Energy Development Capital, Inc. (“USRED”) are investors in and advisors to bioenergy and renewable power project development companies in the United States. The purpose of my letter to you today is to offer USRED’s input on proposed amendments to the California Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

Strengthen Carbon Intensity (CI) Targets

- We are in favor of a strong CI reduction target for driving down GHG emissions in the transportation sector, reducing reliance on petroleum fuels, and transitioning to electronic vehicles where feasible.

Don't Phase Out Avoided Emission Credits

- We do not support the phase out of avoided emission credits.
- Avoided methane emissions are a critical part of science-based, life cycle assessments, and their inclusion in carbon intensity scores is consistent with internationally recognized standards of carbon accounting.

Clarify and Support Book-and-Claim and Delivery Requirements

- We recommend that CARB allow biogas to electricity projects to utilize book-and-claim anywhere in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), as is already the case in Oregon under their Clean Fuels Program.
- We believe CARB should allow biogas-to-electricity projects, where electricity generation and biogas production are not co-located, should be eligible to participate in the LCFS
- We feel that CARB should provide clarification that biomethane may utilize book-and-claim.
- We recommend that book-and-claim for biomethane to electricity remain unconstrained by timeline restrictions.

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- We request that the deliverability requirement language be removed from the proposal to allow for further stakeholder engagement in support of a clear and actionable plan for consideration in a subsequent rulemaking.

True-up Provisions Should be Formalized

- We believe the proposal must be carried over and applied to temporary and provisional CI's as fuel providers may rely on these CI's for months, or even years, as a more refined pathway is evaluated and subsequently approved by CARB.
- Credits should be awarded based on real-world operational experience and therefore adjusted accordingly when the temporary CI which is applied understates the benefits.

New Markets Are Evolving Requiring CARB's On-Going Pathway Inclusion

- We feel CARB should remain mindful of the success of the historical framework of the program and continue to apply it to newer pathways and technologies, including the use of avoided emissions and book-and-claim.
- We ask that CARB begin to think about the framework and guardrails needed to achieve the 80% goal set forth in the Scoping Plan and leverage all of the tools available to the vehicle market, such as book-and-claim and avoided emissions accounting, to make this goal a reality.

As an active member of the American Biogas Council (ABC) we are in support of and agreement with ABC's positions on all matters pertaining to State of California Low Carbon Fuel Standard policies and practices. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James Lavelle

Chief Executive Officer