

February 20, 2023

Liane M. Randolph, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via CARB's online Comment Submittal Form

Re: Opposition to Proposed LCFS Amendment Loophole to Allow Petroleum Projects with Carbon Capture & Storage Past the 2040 Phase-out

The undersigned groups write to express their strong opposition to the proposed Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) amendment that would allow petroleum projects using carbon capture and storage (CCS) to continue to generate credits beyond the phase-out date of December 31, 2040.¹ This amendment creates a dangerous loophole that relies on a so-called climate solution that is anything but; the result will be California incentivizing and perpetuating the climate catastrophe and the health and environmental harms that come with it.

Evidence and real-world experience do not support CARB's apparent belief that CCS eliminates the problems of fossil fuel extraction, refining, processing, and use. Many of the signatories to this letter have submitted comments to CARB time and time again with information making this clear. Further, it is untrue that Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) pathways require CCS to meet climate goals. What is needed is a just and rapid transition away from fossil fuel use;² CCS is a way to avoid that truth.

As recently said by Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Dr. Charles Harvey (who himself once started a CCS company, before abandoning it upon realizing the technology simply fails): **every dollar spent on CCS is a waste** because it allows "for the continued production of oil and natural gas at a time when the world should be ending its dependence on fossil fuels."³ As Dr. Harvey aptly notes: "Instead of spreading doubt about climate science, the industry now spreads false confidence about how we can continue to burn fossil fuels."⁴ We see just that glaring problem in the proposed petroleum loophole.

Addressing the climate crisis requires resources, leadership, and courage. We have no time to waste. **CARB must act courageously and reject the proposed petroleum phase-out loophole.**

¹ See LCFS Proposed Amendments, Appendix E at X.19 § 95488.10, proposed for §§ 95489(c)(5), 95489(d)(5)(C), 95489(e)(5)(B), and 95489(f)(5)(B).

² The IPCC-modeled pathway with the best chance of keeping warming at or below the target of 1.5°C makes no use of fossil fuels with CCS. IPCC, Summary for Policymakers in Global Warming of 1.5°C (2018) at 14, Section C.1.1., Figure SPM 3b (Pathway 1); see also IPCC SR1.5, at Ch. 2.3.3 and Table 2.SM.12.

³ Dr. Charles Harvey, "Every Dollar Spent on This Climate Technology Is a Waste," New York Times (Aug. 16, 2022).

⁴ *Id.*

Thank you,

1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations
350 Bay Area
350 Sacramento
350 San Diego
Asian Pacific Environmental Network
Biofuelwatch
Bold Alliance
California Nurses for Environmental Health
and Justice
Center for Biological Diversity
Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment
Central California Environmental Justice
Network
Climate Hawks Vote
CURE
East Yard Communities for Environmental
Justice
EJCW (Environmental Coalition for Water
Justice)
Elders Climate Action
Elders Climate Action, NorCal Chapter
Extinction Rebellion SF Bay
Food & Water Watch
Food Empowerment Project
Fossil Free California
Fresnans Against Fracking
Friends of the Earth
Good Neighbor Steering Committee of
Benicia
Indigenous Environmental Network
Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra
Costa County
Labor Rise Climate Jobs Acton
Oakland Teachers Advancing Climate
Action
Oil and Gas Action Network
Physicians for Social Responsibility-
Los Angeles
Physicians for Social Responsibility –
San Francisco

Rodeo Citizens Association
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Science and Environmental Health Network
SF Baykeeper
SF Climate Reality Leaders
Stand.earth
Stop OAK Expansion Coalition
Sunflower Alliance
Sustainable Mill Valley
The Sacramento Environmental Justice
Coalition
Tri-Valley CAREs
Valley Improvement Projects
West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and
Safe Jobs