

From: Todd Snyder
To: [ARB Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: withdraw California Tropical Forest Standard proposal
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I am writing to urge you and the California Air Resources Board to withdraw the deeply flawed California Tropical Forest Standard proposal. In the name of our climate, health and wildlife, we must act as quickly as possible to keep fossil fuels in the ground right here in California. That means requiring industrial polluters to make deeper greenhouse gas cuts at their own facilities rather than certifying carbon-offset schemes in jurisdictions thousands of miles away.

Specifically, I urge you to abandon this plan for the following reasons:

- 1) To prevent the worst effects of climate change, we can't afford to make way for carbon offsets that enable fossil fuel companies to continue polluting in California. Our carbon budget for preventing devastating climate change harms is nearly spent. And with offsets some industrial polluters in California will emit more greenhouse gas pollution — and for longer — than they would otherwise be allowed in the absence of those offsets.
- 2) We know that the greenhouse gas pollution from industry is very often accompanied by other pollutants that worsen air quality. We must cut carbon pollution at its source here in California to ensure the health and safety of our communities.
- 3) Similar schemes resembling the draft California Tropical Forest Standard have failed to prove reliable with their carbon accounting and guaranteed permanence. In places like Brazil and Indonesia, they also have a disturbing track record of disrupting indigenous communities and the surrounding forest ecosystems.

For all these reasons, I urge you to reject the draft California Tropical Forest Standard and commit to ending new permits for oil and gas projects in California. Our climate, health and wildlife can't afford the grave threat of continued fossil fuel development.