

**From:** [Ron Askeland](#)  
**To:** [ARB Clerk of the Board](#)  
**Subject:** SORE2021 comments  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2021 7:47:12 AM

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Dear Clerk of CARB,

I received an error message when I tried to submit my comments for **Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Amendments to the Small Off-Road Engine Regulations: Transition to Zero Emissions AND Public Availability of Additional Documents and Information.** Comment below:

Contact Information:

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Phone (Optional):

Affiliation (Optional): SD-SEQUEL (San Diegans for Sustainable, Equitable and Quiet Equipment in Landscaping)

Subject: Support for California's transition to clean lawn care equipment

Message:

Dear Chair Randolph and Members of the Board,

I am a California resident and I support the adoption of new regulations that will phase out the sale of highly-polluting gas-powered leaf blowers and lawn equipment in California beginning in 2024. The use of gas-powered leaf blowers and lawn mowers in particular causes numerous health problems, and greatly contributes to California's notoriously poor air quality. California continues to fail to meet national air quality standards, which means that millions of Californians like myself breathe unhealthy air everyday.

CARB's public health benefit analysis determined that these new regulations, if adopted, will result in:

- \$8.8 billion in health insurance benefits through 2043
- 892 premature deaths avoided
- 438 fewer emergency room visits for asthma
- 311 fewer hospitalizations for respiratory and cardiovascular issues

The California Legislature also appropriated \$30 million for your agency to distribute to small proprietor landscapers to help them begin to acquire and transition to new, zero emission electric and manual equipment. This is in addition to subsidies and buy back programs already led by air districts throughout the state.

This regulation will improve air quality, help to slow the climate crisis, improve human health, and save lives.

Please approve and amend the SORE regulations per the staff recommendation.

To encourage participation in trade-in programs, please reimburse landscapers for 75% of the cost of new electric equipment. The highest priority should be given to replacing 2-stroke engines since they are the worst polluters.

Thank you,

Ron Askeland

SD-SEQUEL (San Diegans for Sustainable, Equitable and Quiet Equipment in Landscaping)