

**From:** [Fibiger, Dorothy@ARB](mailto:Fibiger_Dorothy@ARB)  
**To:** [ARB Clerk of the Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on SORE regs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:16:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [CARB SORE regs support letter-Kim Alexander.docx](#)

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Hi,

I'm wondering if Kim's comments made it into the record for the SORE item?

Thanks,  
Dorothy

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**From:** Kim Alexander <kimalex@calvoter.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 29, 2021 6:58 PM  
**To:** Fibiger, Dorothy@ARB <dorothy.fibiger@arb.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on SORE regs

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Hi Dorothy,

Attached is the public comment I emailed to [COTB@arb.ca.gov](mailto:COTB@arb.ca.gov) on 11/21 from the email address [mowbetter01@gmail.com](mailto:mowbetter01@gmail.com), since the online submission process wasn't working and is still not working. I received no confirmation message and as of 6:51 pm on 11/29 it is not displaying in the Public Comments page. So I am sending it to you and hope that it will be included in the official comments log for the SORE regs. It is pasted in below and also attached as a Word doc.

Thank you,

Kim Alexander

November 21, 2021

**To:** CARB Board  
**From:** Kim Alexander, Mow Better co-convener, [mowbetter01@gmail.com](mailto:mowbetter01@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Support for California's transition to clean lawn care equipment

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.

While these regulations do nothing to address the massive harms caused by the existing inventory of an estimated 10.6 million pieces of residential and commercial lawn care equipment currently owned and operated in our state, they do propose prohibiting the production of new equipment to sell or lease for use in the State of California beginning in

2024. This is a modest but important step to advance greater use of cleaner, healthier and quieter equipment.

As your agency's own research has found, gas-powered lawn equipment makes up 69 percent of the state's small off-road engines which together create more air pollution in California than **\*\*all passenger vehicles combined\*\***. The use of gas-powered lawn equipment causes numerous health and air quality problems, greatly contributing to California's sad role as home to seven of the Top Ten most polluted cities in the nation. In fact, California risks losing future federal funding if we continue to fail to meet national air quality standards.

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

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

Fortunately the California Legislature has appropriated \$30 million for your agency to distribute to small proprietor landscapers and help them begin to acquire and transition to new, zero emission electric and manual equipment. In addition, air districts around the state are also operating effective buyback and subsidy programs. Funding also must be provided to support training programs to help landscapers switch to clean tools.

These regulations advance legislation enacted this year (AB 1346) to phase out the sale of gas-powered lawn equipment beginning in 2024, and also advance Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-79-20, which sets a goal to transition off-road vehicles and equipment operations to 100 percent zero-emission by 2035 where feasible.

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