



Arley Baker
05-8-3

A CLEANER PORT.
A BRIGHTER
FUTURE.



**California Air Resource Board
Fresno, Calif., Board Meeting, May 22, 2008
Statement from the Port of Los Angeles**

Submitted by Arley Baker, Senior Director, Communications & Legislative Affairs

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the California Air Resources Board's ongoing efforts to seek public comment on implementation of the Proposition 1B program. The Port of Los Angeles would like to thank you for a transparent and open process. CARB staff has been very responsive and accessible in answering questions through every step of this process, and we very much appreciate that.

I know I speak for both the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach when I say that we greatly value the strong partnership and working relationship with Air Resources Board Members and staff. We also recognize the challenges associated with developing a fair and equitable distribution of the Proposition 1B state bond funds, and we know CARB recognizes the public health crisis in Southern California and the ports' risk-based need for the Proposition 1B revenues.

It is no secret that the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan region holds the dubious distinction of having the number ONE worst air in the nation – or at least west of the Mississippi. A full 82% of Southern Californians are exposed to harmful diesel emissions above National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Of course, it makes sense when you realize that the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach handle 85% of the state's containerized goods. But that's the bad news.

The good news is that the San Pedro Bay Ports have developed and are IN the process of implementing a landmark Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP). This includes a full range of "action" items that will reduce port-related emissions by half. The ports are committed to cutting diesel particulate matter by more than 47 percent and smog from nitrogen oxide emissions by more that 45 percent in the next five years.

The ports stand ready to deliver this program. We have made a commitment to local and regional communities, and have partnered with CARB, along with the U.S. EPA and the South Coast Air Quality Management District to ~~see~~ see this commitment through to full success. The ports have already start^{ed} implementing the first phases of this program, but need CARB's help to fund this effort which ultimately may cost \$2 billion dollars.

The central element of the CAAP is the Clean Trucks Program, a bold set of actions to replace 16,800 dirty diesel drayage trucks by 2012. Funding support from CARB is a fundamental part of the Clean Trucks Program and will directly assist the San Pedro Bay Ports in jump-starting the first critical phase of this initiative.

The CARB staff recommendations outlining the initial phase in the allocation process for the Proposition 1B state bonds funds is a very positive and important first step. The ports urge Members of the Air Resources Board to approve these recommendations, including the allocation for the San Pedro Bay Ports in the amount of \$98 million.

Both the Mayors of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the respective Harbor Commissions for both ports, along with the ports' management are strongly committed to aggressively

putting the Proposition 1B revenues to work; consistent with the mandate of the State Legislature, Governor and voters. We need to quickly reduce emissions and improve the public health of impacted communities.

The ports strongly believe the public health needs in the LA/Inland Empire Corridor justifies additional future allocations from Proposition 1B funds to support the Clean Trucks Program, and the ports intend to pursue future funding rounds. CARB staff recommendations are a reasonable starting point for the Board to take action.

Thank you again for your strong commitment and support of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan and Clean Trucks Program initiatives. We look forward to continuing our strong working relationship and our common cause to put the Proposition 1B dollars to work and improving the public health for all Californians.

###