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February 13, 2009

Manisha Singh
Lead, Policy and Regulatory WG
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95812

RE: January workshop: Draft Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Regulation

Dear Ms. Singh:

Green Depot is a nonprofit organization working to educate the public about the benefits of Biodiesel and to promote its use as an environmental justice solution in California neighborhoods hardest hit by toxic diesel pollution. I write today to comment on the draft LCFS regulation as discussed at the January 30, 2009 workshop and to encourage an accelerated timeline for Biodiesel.

We in the community of Biodiesel users and advocates believe that more should be done to bring those benefits to the state as soon as possible. We know that the industry in California has the capacity to reduce carbon emissions significantly more quickly than the current ARB proposal. California is using more than 43 million gallons of Biodiesel per year (according to the California Energy Commission). We have nine Biodiesel plants operating, producing about 63 million gallons per year with 4 more plants idle and one or more under construction.

So, we know that the existing infrastructure can do even more than just meet the demands of a 1% reduction in carbon intensity beginning January 2010. Furthermore, according to the California Energy Commission, the current AB 118 investment plan will allocate funding towards the development of Biodiesel blending and distribution infrastructure. Revising the implementation timeline for the diesel fuel pool to include more aggressive decreases in carbon beginning in 2010 will nourish one of the greenest industries our state has to offer.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (415) 308-2276 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Eric Smith
Director, Green Depot San Francisco
Vice Chair, San Francisco Biodiesel Access Task Force