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April 15, 2009

Mary Nichols, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
PO Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812
Copies:

Board Clerk

Executive Office D

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Chair

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AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Dear Chairman Nichols:

The City of Fremont has supported many of California's groundbreaking climate change policies because local governments like ours are on the front battle lines to protect our citizens, public property, and communities from the potentially devastating effects of global warming. We must prepare for and respond to emergencies such as drought-induced wildfires, health problems during heat waves, water shortages, increased pests, flooding, and other public health crises linked to climate change.

Our vehicle fleets, which like all motor vehicles contribute to global warming, are currently limited to those transportation fuels that are widely available, despite our best efforts to procure fuel-efficient and alternative fuel vehicles.

A state policy that will spur the production of a whole new generation of clean, low carbon transportation fuels-so that our government fleet, local business fleets, and residents can use these cleaner, greener fuels-is a win-win for all. California's proposed Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) is one such policy and the City of Fremont wholeheartedly supports the Air Resources Board's staff proposal.

The LCFS is a critical component of the state's plan to achieve its AB 32 greenhouse gas reduction goals as well as Fremont's adopted goal of reducing emissions by 25% by 2020. Because transportation is the single largest source of California's (and Fremont's) global warming pollution, the state is correct to prioritize this sector and to ensure that fuel providers contribute their fair share to the state's overall emissions reductions.

The LCFS rewards and incentivizes investment in the cleanest low carbon fuels and discourages investment in dirtier, higher carbon fuels. By accounting for the full lifecycle of a fuel, including indirect land use impacts for various biofuels, the standard ensures that the cleanest fuels such as electricity, natural gas, hydrogen, and superior advanced biofuels made from waste, non-food crops, and new sources such as algae will thrive because they have lower lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions than gasoline or diesel.

We also support the LCFS because it will spur innovation and economic growth in our state and our communities, keeping dollars here at home and creating local jobs, while contributing to both energy and climate security, and avoiding fuel price swings. All Californians will benefit from fuel price stability.

California has already demonstrated it can save energy while growing the economy through its groundbreaking energy efficiency and green tech policies. It is time once again for California to serve as a model to the nation and the world with the Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

Sincerely,

Bob Wasserman

Mayor

c: Fremont City Council

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