

Jesus Vargas  
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**Jesus Vargas**  
**San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**  
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My name is Jesus Vargas and I represent the San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

The San Joaquin Valley is suffering more than the rest of the state in this economic recession. Our members, mostly small and minority-owned businesses, care about the environment. But because they have to stretch everyone single one of their own pennies just to stay alive, they expect the agencies that make rules impacting how they do business and what it costs to be equally careful about the costs.

It's no secret that in the Valley we have serious air pollution problems. We are spending a lot already on cleaning up the smog and we understand it's a necessary, although difficult, expense. We can see the results.

Global warming is different. It's a global problem that can't be solved by taking even the most drastic of measures in California alone. And while policies like the low carbon fuel standard may have a limited side benefit of reducing air pollution, it's mostly aimed at carbon reduction. Our members would like to know: if California successfully enacts the low carbon fuel standard, will we have done anything to reduce global warming, and if so how much? Will the world still face a growing climate change problem because other countries are using more and more energy and aren't nearly as strict as California in how much carbon it emits?

This new rule is likely to cost billions of dollars and not do anything at all to slow down global warming. And if it forces a large increase in the use of certain bio-fuels it could even add to the smog-forming emissions we in the Valley have been fighting for so long.

We already have the cleanest gasoline in the country, surely we can afford to take the time necessary to make sure a new fuel standard doesn't cost billions and – in cooperation with the rest of the country and the world - will actually fulfill its mission to reduce global warming.

Please postpone your decision until you – and the public – have all the facts.

Thank you.