BARCH

California Legislature

STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

June 11, 2009

Mary Nichols, Chairman California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814



RE: Implementation of Off-Road Diesel Equipment Regulation Pursuant to ABX2 8

Dear Chairman Nichols,

As you know, the Air Resources Board (ARB) has been charged with implementing the provisions of ABX2 8 related to the ARB's off-road diesel equipment regulation and will soon be considering proposed revisions to the rule. The off-road diesel rule is a critical public health measure that will save over 4,000 lives when the rule is fully implemented in addition to helping California meet federal clean air standards. As ARB develops regulatory changes to credit emission reductions from construction equipment during the economic downturn pursuant to this legislation, ARB must ensure that critical public health benefits and emission reductions needed for compliance with federal Clean Air Act requirements in 2014 and beyond are maintained.

While ABX2 8 requires ARB to recognize the emission reductions occurring as a result of the economic downturn through retirement and reduced activity, the legislation does not alter ARB's obligations to reduce public health risk from diesel pollution or achieve federal Clean Air Act deadlines. Therefore, ARB must do everything possible to preserve emission reduction benefits in the off-road rule, especially for the period of 2013 and beyond when the new credits for retirement and reduced activity expire. If ARB finds that implementation of the provisions of ABX2 8 compromise expected emission reductions from off-road equipment beyond 2013, we urge that ARB make further adjustments to the off-road rule to fully mitigate these losses or identify and quickly adopt other measures to ensure that all expected emission reduction benefits are achieved.

Reducing diesel emissions from off-road equipment and other diesel emission sources is critical to protecting Californians from increased risks of cancer, heart and lung disease, asthma and premature death. In addition, ARB's regulations to limit diesel pollution are an integral component to meeting federal clean air standards as soon as 2014 in the San Joaquin Valley and the Los Angeles basin. While emission reductions resulting from a slowing economy should be recognized, future health protections and the state's ability to meet clean air standards must not be compromised as ARB implements AB2X 8.

Sincerely,

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This correspondence contains the following signatures (in order):

Assemblymember Nancy Skinner 13th Assembly District

Assemblymember Wesly Chesbro 1st Assembly District

Assemblymember John Perez 46th Assembly District

Assemblymember Tom Torlakson 11th Assembly District

Assemblymember Warren T. Furutani 55th Assembly District

Assemblymember Sandré Swanson 16th Assembly District

Assemblymember Norma Torres 61st Assembly District

Assemblymember Marty Block 78th Assembly District

Assemblymember Joan Buchanan 15th Assembly District

Assemblymember Alberto Torrico 20th Assembly District

Assemblymember Lori Saldaña 24th Assembly District

Assemblymember Bill Monning 27th Assembly District

Assemblymember Mike Eng-49th Assembly District

Assemblymember Wilmer Amina Carter 62nd Assembly District

Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi 18th Assembly District

Assemblymember Noreen Evans 7th Assembly District

Assemblymember Mariko Yamada 8th Assembly District

Assemblymember Joe Coto= 23rd Assembly District

Assemblymember Jerry Hill 19th Assembly District

Assemblymember V. Manuel Pérez 80th Assembly District

Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal 54th Assembly District

Assemblymember Paul Fong 22nd Assembly District

Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes 39th Assembly District

Assemblymember Curren Price 51st Assembly District

Assemblymember Julia Brownley 41st Assembly District

Assemblymember Mike Feuer 42nd Assembly District

Assemblymember Tom Ammiano 13th Assembly District

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