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California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: A Hobson's Choice

Dear Board Members,

Who paid for this building?

I did.

Speaking metaphorically, of course. What I mean is the business people and the employees of these businesses, who all pay taxes to the State of California, paid for this building and the salaries of all the people in it.

I have paid direct (income) taxes for 50 years in California, but no more. Of course, I will be forced to pay the resultant "indirect taxes" that CARB and other "regulatory agencies" cause as the cost of everything from apples to zippers increase due to regulations imposed on business.

Why won't I be paying income taxes? Because my salary has been non existent (zero) for the last 2 years and 3 months while you, Mary Nichols, have increased your salary from \$57,000 to \$129,000 over three years. The few employees I have left have taken a 40% decrease in pay to keep their jobs, which, at this point, are precarious.

You are benefitting while private employers are going broke. That will not continue. Private building has ceased. The Cities, Counties and the State of California all are essentially bankrupt. I stood in this building in August of 2007 and explained to this Board that we are going into a recession and now is not the time for increased regulation. Well, now it is a depression and according to the LAO, California is upside down to the tune of \$20+B annually for the next 5 years at least along with having to borrow \$40M per day for unemployment benefits.

Unemployment caused, in large part, by this very Board. All for unproven, and I mean

UNPROVEN, supposed lethal effects.

Yep, the air and water will be cleaner. You and other Regulatory Agencies have already "protected us" from ourselves by destroying the business activities that makes an economy work and provides for a tax base to support a government. You have singlehandedly destroyed 90% of my net worth that I have spent 45 years building. No smoking diesels (supposedly killing thousands of Californians every year, or is it hundreds, or any at all?). What ever happened to that pesky "Tran" report that you were supposed to redo to justify these regulations? No air or water pollution from construction activities. But we are saving three inch fish, 4 foot snakes, some esoteric bushes and a nesting raptor or two. A perfect world is coming. Just give you a few more years to "regulate" the abhorrent Carbon Dioxide Emissions that will most undoubtedly result in our complete demise all by itself without your valuable regulation.

My employees are not only losing their jobs, but their health insurance and most probably to be followed by their houses and eventually their very health that you are purporting to protect. A lack of income has a proven DIRECT EFFECT ON HEALTH.

With that, go their taxes, which are necessary to support the government and the very agency you direct.

Soon, you will be feeling the pain that you have caused with your incessant regulation of agricultural chemicals, VOC's, formaldehyde, construction activity and diesel exhaust, to name just a few. The jobs in this building will cease to exist, because there will not be any private industry tax money to pay for them.

Should you grant relief? Only if you want to keep your jobs. Not only to the construction and trucking industries but ALL INDUSTRIES you are currently regulating out of business.

If not, then just plow ahead. In due course, I will then sell your empty building along with mine. Maybe the Chinese will buy them.

Sincerely,

Skip Brown

President