

Erik White  
CARB  
Sacramento, CA

January 4, 2008

Dear Mr. White:

I have worked with the CIAQC group since its inception. We have worked with SCAQMD and CARB for years to improve the air quality while protecting the viability of the construction industry. Jeb Stuart has helped to guide us during these years.

I grew up in the San Fernando Valley during the 50's and 60's. Our family bicycled in Pasadena on the weekends. At the end of a day of bicycling, your lungs burned if you breathed in deep. That no longer happens. Air quality has improved tremendously even as the population has exploded.

The new off-road equipment regulation is going to cause a lot of financial hardship in the construction industry. Most companies are small operations that do not have the financial where-with-all to meet the demands of the new regulation. Their assets are tied up in their equipment. Their assets will become worthless and they will go out of business.

I have seen charts that indicate that by concentrating on the engine manufacturers getting Tier 4 engines into the market \place, the end results of natural progression arrives nearly at the same levels as the regulated process only 4 to 5 years later. Is it worth destroying thousands of personal businesses to gain an incremental improvement in air quality? Severe financial stress will also cause premature deaths. My aunt had asthma in the 40's and early 50's before smog was a factor in Los Angeles.

The construction industry is poised to help improve the traffic problems in California that contribute to smog. This new regulation will create chaos in our industry. The Governor is advocating for new construction companies to move into California to help with all this infrastructure work while your regulation will destroy companies that are already here.

Very truly yours,

Claude Fiske