San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

June 21, 2010

Clerk of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL

RE: Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of Proposition 1B Grants for fiscal year (FY) 2008-09 And FY 2009-10 Funds to Reduce Emissions from Goods Movement

To whom it may concern:

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the referenced item and supports the proposed Proposition 1B funding allocations for FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10 as outlined in the Preliminary Staff Recommendations for Funding and subsequent Staff Report for consideration on June 24, 2010.

The San Joaquin Valley is home to two major transportation corridors that connect Northern and Southern California: Interstate 5 and Highway 99. There are a number of communities located along these two transportation corridors. Many of these residents are low-income and minorities living within five miles of either Interstate 5 or Highway 99 and are disproportionately impacted by the pollution generated along these transportation corridors. Over 80% of the NOx inventory in the SJVAPCD is attributed to mobile sources including Heavy-Duty trucks. It is clear that there is a great need to address emissions from mobile sources in the Valley, specifically transportation and goods movement related emissions.

Since the inception of the Proposition 1B Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program (GMERP), the SJVAPCD has worked cooperatively with the California Air Resources Board, industry stakeholders and the general public to craft an innovative, robust and user-friendly program within the San Joaquin Valley. In fact, the SJVAPCD grant program is recognized as one of the most efficient and cost-effective grant programs in the state. The SJVAPCD has recently undergone four separate audits and each one reinforced the fact that the SJVAPCD grant programs are streamlined, fiscally responsible and highly effective.

Seyed Sadredin
Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

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Our successes in GMERP can be illustrated through the overwhelming response to our initial solicitation for truck replacement and retrofit projects. The SJVAPCD received more than 2,800 applications during the first three months of the solicitation period. These successes can be attributed directly to the SJVAPCD Governing Board commitment to allocate the necessary resources to this program, including an increase in staff, IT support and a broad, multilingual outreach campaign, comprised of dozens of billboards, numerous radio ads and various other media.

With our past successes and continued commitment to this extremely important program, the SJVAPCD is perfectly positioned and highly capable of effectively administering the level of funding proposed in the staff report.

Sincerely,

Seyed Sadredin
Executive Director/APCO