June 14, 2010

Cynthia Marvin
Assistant Division Chief
Planning and Technical Support Division
California Air Resources Board
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

RE: *ARB Staff recommendations for San Diego APCD Funding Allocation*

Dear Ms. Marvin,

Recently, we learned of the recommendation by ARB staff for funding allocations in San Diego. As an organization who has supported initiatives to help clean the air, we were disappointed to see a potential lost opportunity. On May 5th, we attended the local stakeholder meeting hosted by the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District. During the stakeholder process, we recommended that Proposition 1B Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program funding priority be for trucks in our region.

Unfortunately, ARB's staff recommendation was to split the $500 million into two funding phases, based on the availability of bond funding. Phase 1 will be allocated at the June 24th Board meeting, at which time they will allocate $200 million. ARB staff is recommending that only $500 K in funding be awarded to local APCD during Phase 1 for harbor craft and not recommending any funding at this time for San Diego trucks. Phase 2 funding would not be awarded until after the sale of additional bonds in spring 2011. The preliminary recommendation from ARB staff for the San Diego/Border region is less than 2% of the $200 million currently available.

The most recent truck reporting from the Port of San Diego revealed there are trucks eligible for Prop1B funding for a truck replacement if the requirement that the old truck already have a DPF were not in place. These trucks are frequent visitors to the Port at least 3 times a quarter, or 12 times a year, are all 1994-2003 model year trucks, and are noncompliant. Together they were responsible for almost 40% of the total 1313 noncompliant visits. Replacement costs for this scenario is $1,500,000 of the $60 million our region is slated to get from Prop 1B.

We realize hard economic times have all California communities reeling, but the hardest hit are those who suffer health problems. Toxic diesel pollution causes cancer and other severe illnesses which carry a huge economic burden for these individuals and San Diego. The American Lung Association recently released its 2010 State of the Air report with San Diego receiving an "F" grade for its air quality ranking. Unfortunately, this ranks San Diego in the top 10 of the dirtiest cities in the US.

We are urging you to reconsider and allocate Phase 1 money to APCD for San Diego trucks. Please know that we will support you in anyway to ensure San Diegans have the ability to

breathe clean air. Thank you again for all your commitment for curbing asthma in San Diego and let us know how we may assist.

Sincerely,

Michael Kelly MD

Michael Kelly, MD
Clinical Chair
San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition
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