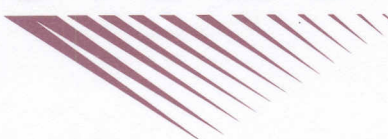


S I G N E T



0012-71

ORIGINAL:  
Copies:

Board Clerk  
Executive Officer  
Chair

Thursday, December 04, 2008

Ms. Mary Nichols  
Chair, California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Nichols:

As a small business owner I am very concerned about the current state of the economy and my ability to maintain my business. California imposes a number of taxes on businesses and does not seem to be concerned keeping small businesses from leaving California.

Like many small businesses these difficult times force us to make difficult decisions. I do not want to lay off workers or reduce salaries or benefits, but if I am saddled with higher energy costs, additional taxes and fees I will have to make some tough choices.

I started my business twenty years ago and have ten employees. ~30% of our products are exported. I have considered moving my business out of state to avoid the very high cost of doing business in California but have not done this because of my loyal employees.

I urge you to take into account California's struggling small businesses. The proposed plan your agency has put forth increases taxes, energy costs, fuel costs, vehicle costs and building costs, which will all hurt small businesses.

I encourage you to not impose an impossible burden on small businesses and consumers and protect California's companies, jobs and the economy.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Cunneen  
Owner  
Signet Products, Inc.  
2 Davis Drive  
Belmont, CA 94002