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07-7-7
June 21-22, 2007

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RULES



June 15, 2007

Dr. Robert Sawyer, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Dr. Sawyer:

We are writing to express concerns about the upcoming June 22, 2007, CARB Public Hearing to consider approval of the Proposed State Strategy to meet the Federal 8-hour ozone and the PM2.5 Standards. It was originally anticipated that the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) would also be considered for adoption at this hearing.

We urge CARB to further enhance the proposed state mobile source control strategy to ensure that expeditious progress is being made and that federal deadlines for attainment of clean air standards will be met. We are also concerned that CARB has decided to delay the adoption of the South Coast AQMD Air Quality Management Plan until October 2007, but will consider approval of its mobile source strategy for California on June 22, 2007. This means that the state agency will essentially decide the fate of millions of Southern Californians without dealing with the urgency of the local air quality needs – which will delay addressing the existing health crisis and may place additional burdens on local industrial and commercial businesses.

California needs CARB to continue its past leadership on these issues and adopt the most effective measures possible now in order to reduce air pollution from mobile sources. Since CARB has delayed adopting the AQMD's plan, we believe it is CARB's responsibility to approve measures that will bring all areas of California into attainment of the health based clean air standards by the federally mandated deadline.

CARB's own studies estimate that fine particulate pollution in the South Coast Air Basin is responsible annually for 5,400 premature deaths, 2,400 hospitalizations, and 980,000 lost work days. Residents in this region bear 82 percent of the statewide burden and 52 percent of the national burden of unhealthy levels of particulate pollution on a population-weighted exposure basis. This is simply unacceptable.

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As the representatives of the impacted areas, we implore the California Air Resources Board to strengthen their State Strategy and commit to additional emission reductions from mobile sources, as needed for meeting the federal clean air standards with an adequate margin of safety.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Cedillo

Mike Davis

Don Jones

Nell Ford

Ted W. Lee

Alan Sanchez

John Cato

Wilmer Aminda Carter

Paul Krikorian

Jose Soler

Alfau

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