

*Hope for Today,
Hope for Tomorrow*

G. Richard Fowler
Executive Director

BOARD MEMBERS

Bishop Stephen E. Blane
President

Joan A. Avardick, Chw
Insurance Financial Consultant

Edna Milan, Vice Chair
San Joaquin Delta College

Madeline Hagan
Secretary/Treasurer
Director, Managed Care

Christina Costello
Parish Administrator
St. Patrick, Sonoma

Rene D'Arcy
Vice President, Counselor

Timothy Ciccarelli
CPA

Don Geiger
Attorney at Law

Vera Girilani
Vice President Marketing

Rev. Mons. Donald Gruber
Pastor, St. Mary's
Oakdale

Yvonne Leal
CSU Stanislaus

Don A. Litchfield, Jr.
Insurance Broker

Antoinette Ted-McCoy
Presentation Parish

Rev. José Alirio Reyes
Deacon, St. Basil's

Paul Scheeler
Retired

Wanda Silva
Chief Financial Officer

Kristi Stiles
Assistant Claims Manager

Eileen Stadmer
Real Estate Agent

Rev. Mr. Ray Whitlock
Deacon, St. Bernard

June 12, 2007

The Honorable Bob Sawyer
Chairman
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's Proposed Ozone Plan

Dear Chairman Sawyer:

On behalf of the 350,000 families who attend Mass and receive the Sacraments in the Catholic Diocese of Stockton, we ask your help to improve the air quality in the Central Valley as soon as possible. The Diocese stretches from San Joaquin Valley to the Sierra Nevada Mountains. For the past three years, we have focused on improving people's health by working for cleaner air.

The Catholic Church understands that, to respect life, we must respect the envelope of life, the Earth, on which all life depends. That is why the Stockton Diocese is actively engaged on air pollution and the public health.

Specifically, we ask you to avoid adopting the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's draft 2007 Ozone Plan. Instead, we ask that you closely consider the recommendations made in the "Clearing the Air" report by independent experts with the International Sustainable Systems Research Center. This report, which I believe members of your board have received, reviews many steps that could be taken, including adopting a "Clean Air Days" rule for mobile diesel sources of NOx emissions.

In addition, we ask the Air Resources Board to direct staff to prepare a "severe" plan that meets Clean Air Act requirements, controls both mobile and stationary and area-wide sources as far as possible, and attains the 8-hour ozone standard by 2017.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rich Fowler

Rich Fowler
Executive Director
Catholic Charities

1101 North El Dorado, Stockton, CA 95202 phone: 209-444-5200 fax: 209-444-5535
400 12th Street, Suite 4, Modesto, CA 95354 phone: 209-529-3781 fax: 209-529-5083
10855 Mono Way, Suite 101, Sonoma, CA 95370 phone: 209-522-7615 fax: 209-532-8718