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Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer

August 1, 2008

Chairman Mary Nichols
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chairman Nichols:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on both the Climate Change Draft Scoping Plan, June 2008 Discussion Draft, and the Climate Change Draft Scoping Plan Appendices. OCTA looks forward to participating as a valuable resource for background and expertise not only in the unique transportation planning and programming functions within the Southern California region, but for specific sector strategies, such as congestion management.

Due to the strong interrelation of the Draft Scoping Plan and Appendices, OCTA plans on submitting comprehensive comments for both documents using the August 11, 2008, timeline. Recommendations included in the documents such as the imposition of regional greenhouse targets and the expansion of the blueprint planning process will have implications for OCTA's entire planning process. While OCTA appreciates the larger effort of reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout the state, flexibility in local government implementation will be needed to ensure the resulting framework will be compatible with the needs of the local population. Part of this flexibility requires an acknowledgement of not only the unique transportation planning process in the Southern California region, but also the multiple measurements that could be used to track GHG emission reductions, such as decreased vehicle hours traveled and congestion.

OCTA looks forward to continuing to collaborate with the California Air Resources Board to promote technologies that allow us to provide cost-effective, reliable, and safe transportation to our customers while doing our part to improve California's air quality. If you have any questions please contact me at (714) 560-5584 or Wendy Villa, State Relations Manager, at (714) 560-5595.

Sincerely,

Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer

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