

Joseph
Jackson

Dr. Joseph N. Jackson
California Air Resources Board
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My name is Dr. Joseph Jackson, and I'm here today representing the Carson Black Chamber of Commerce.

When our Chamber looks at regulations, we are interested in knowing a few specific things:

- How much will it cost?
- Who's going to pay for it?
- What benefit will it bring for our members and our community?

We've looked at this rule and have determined that it's going to cost billions of dollars. Those costs will ultimately find their way to businesses and consumers. As for benefits concerned, we don't see any for the most part – not for the environment, not for the economy and not for the businesses that are going to have to lay out the investment to build these fueling stations.

We certainly do not see any benefit for our members or our community.

We also do not support the premise that without forcing certain gas stations to install hydrogen fueling pumps the hydrogen vehicle market will die. To update an old saying, you can fill the trough with water but if there are no horses to drink it you will have wasted the price of the trough and the water. Unfortunately this exercise will be an extremely expensive lesson.

On a personal note, I am highly supportive of the development of new technologies, having been issued six US Patents in the area of telecommunications including one for programmable television receiver controllers.

But experience has taught me that if you have a good product that meets an unmet need, private investors will be willing to risk their capital on the expectation of future profits. That's how rich venture capitalists get richer.

In this case, there is no viable product – i.e. hydrogen vehicles – and forcing billions to be spent on infrastructure won't make them be there any time sooner.

Our members wouldn't spend their precious dollars to open stores with empty shelves, and gas stations shouldn't be forced to install equipment to provide fuel for which they have no customers.

Therefore the Carson Black Chamber of Commerce opposes this regulation.