



OPERATION ★ FREE

Secure America with Clean Energy

Operation Free Statement by Cathy Jackson-Ervin

CARB Meeting – January 26th

I'd like to thank the board for allowing me the opportunity to speak. My name is Cathy Jackson-Ervin I currently reside in Lancaster, California. I am a veteran of the United States Air Force where I served as a Logistics manager. I am here today as a member of Operation Free. As a veteran, I care deeply about our nation's national security. A month after my son was born on September 10, 2001, I was asked to prepare for deployment to the Middle East. I saw first-hand what it takes to deploy, essentially every able bodied airman leaving "America's Go to Wing" as a ghost town in order to defend our nation. I've witnessed my husband, family and friends continue to deploy to these regions. As a supply troop we are responsible for supplying everything from bolts to fuel. Our nations thirst for oil makes it more likely that we have to deploy troops to unstable regions far from home. And as any limited and valuable resource diminishes, conflict over that resource tends to increase. Oil is no exception. The military is looking for alternative sources of energy. India Company 3rd Battalion 5th Marines out of Camp Pendleton began using solar technology to operate their generators in Afghanistan in order to reduce casualties from IED attacks on their fuel convoys, 1 in 24 of which result in an American casualty. The nation must follow the military's commitment to the mission... energy independence. I hope this board and the leaders of our great state will set aside politics for the greater good. I urge you to implement robust emission standards that will encourage American innovation and create jobs all while addressing the growing threats we face due to climate change and our dependence on fossil fuels. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. God Bless you and the United States of America.



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Operation Free Statement by Mario Rivas

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Hello my name is Mario Rivas, thank you for receiving my comments today. I am here today with Operation Free, a national coalition of veterans who are advocating for clean energy. I served in the enlisted ranks of the U.S Marine Corps on active duty for nearly 12 years, and I'm an Iraq war veteran. I currently serve as a Captain in the CA Army National Guard. I am a resident of southeast Los Angeles and work in the nearby city of Huntington Park implementing the state's landmark AB939 and AB32 regulations. Today I would like to speak to you about energy security and the tremendous sacrifice that veterans pay.

Many service members, like myself, who have left for war. Not all of us come back. These veterans died securing and protecting the democracy and freedom we all cherish. Having served in combat, I can honestly say that many of these deaths could have been avoidable had we not depended on fossil fuel.

You see, 2 in 5 deaths while in a combat deployment are because of an improvised explosive device or what we now commonly known as an IED. If you're unlucky to be hit by an IED and survive, then you have to live a lifetime of pain from injuries and the guilt of your buddy dying and not you. Reducing the impact of our fuel use is critical to saving lives on the battlefield, which is why the military is continually looking for ways to operate equipment, like generators, on solar power, thereby reducing the need for convoys.

But the amount of oil we use isn't the only threat related to our fossil fuel use. The CIA, NSA, and DoD all agree that climate change is a threat multiplier, and are working to take on that threat as well.

Like the military, California has long been an example of leadership on clean energy issues. As a native Californian, and as a proud American veteran, I ask that you continue to support clean energy by adopting strong emission standards that help reduce our carbon emissions and make us energy independent from fossil fuels.