



## OPEN LETTER TO CARB ON UPCOMING CLIMATE POLICY REGULATIONS



California Air Resources Chair Liane M. Randolph and Board Members  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Board Members,

As California businesses begin to emerge out of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic that impacted every facet of our lives, we are now facing another major challenge - unprecedented energy costs. Some of these higher energy costs are certainly the result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. However, the premium Californians pay for all forms of energy is also unquestionably the result of California's energy and climate policy design.



Governor Newsom and Legislators have proposed immediate action to get money directly into the pockets of Californians facing higher energy costs. At the same time, this Board is on track to adopt major regulations over the next few months that have the potential to drive businesses out of California, resulting in job losses, increase cost of living – including food, utilities, and housing costs – and major declines in economic activity.



We collectively have deep concerns with the direct negative impacts from the Climate Change Scoping Plan to meet the AB 32 emissions mandate and the Advanced Clean Cars Rule (ACC II), both of which you will be considering over the course of the coming months.



The decisions made and the path chosen will have a profound impact on all Californians, dictating how they must run their businesses, what cars they can drive, where they can live, and what stove they can cook with. Life as we know it in California will be altered going forward.

### ACC II and the Scoping Plan will have major implications for businesses and individuals in California, including:



- **Higher utility costs** disproportionately impacting inland and rural communities
- **Eliminating consumer choice** by mandating all electric vehicles, appliances, residential and commercial buildings
- **Worsening our electric grid reliability** by pushing electrification without the infrastructure in place, thus increasing the likelihood of power outages
- **Increasing costs to businesses**, especially agricultural and goods movement sectors



To lessen the impacts on those that can least afford it, climate policies must be cost-effective, technology-neutral and most protective of the state's skilled and trained workforce. We



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respectfully urge you to consider that selecting an unnecessarily high-cost pathway will deepen inequality for millions of Californians who are already feeling the squeeze of high energy costs.

California's climate policies have become more aggressive and more regressive, usually dictated by coastal affluent communities to the detriment of the rest of California's communities struggling to make ends meet. Our climate solutions should be available to all Californians, not just those that can afford electric vehicles, new appliances, and rooftop solar power.

There is no question that the climate crisis is real. We are all committed to being a part of the solution for a lower carbon future.

We believe you can create holistic climate strategies that consider the needs of every community, especially those most vulnerable to high costs, foster innovation, create jobs, and rebuild California's dwindling middle class. We can show the other states and nations that California can lead the way, without leaving anyone behind.

Getting it right will take courage from policy makers and regulators to think creatively, make adjustments, and stand up against costly and harmful policies.

As business and community leaders, we stand ready to work with this Board to adopt and implement an energy policy for our state that embraces carbon removal and other technologies to meet our emissions goals without forcing us to rely on a single technology that our electricity grid and infrastructure is ill-prepared for. For the sake of every Californian, and as an example to the Nation, we must get it right.

Sincerely,

African American Farmers of California, Will Scott Jr., President

Agricultural Energy Consumers Association, Michael Boccadoro, Executive Director

Associated Builders and Contractors Central Chapter, Laura Barnes, Chapter President

Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Bette Rader, Executive Director

Big Bear Chamber of Commerce, Ellen B. Clarke, Executive Director

Californians for Affordable and Reliable Energy (CARE Coalition), Rob Lapsley, Chair

California Alliance of Small Business Associations, William R. La Marr, Executive Director,

California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, David Nelson, VP of Public Policy

California Business Roundtable, Rob Lapsley, President & CEO

California Farm Bureau, Jim Houston, Administrator

California Fresh Fruit Association, Ian LeMay, President

California Fuels and Convenience Alliance, Samuel Bayless, Director of Policy



California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Julian Canéte, President

California League of Food Producers, Trudi Hughes, President & CEO

California Manufacturers and Technology Association, Lance Hastings, President & CEO

Central Valley Business Federation, Clint Olivier, CEO

Central Valley Latino Mayors and Elected Officials, Victor Lopez, Chair

Central Valley Yemen Foundation, Ali Ahmed, Co-Chair

Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce, Zeb Welborn, President

Coastal Energy Alliance, Chris Collier, Founder & President

Corona Chamber of Commerce, Bobby Spiegel, President & CEO

Fresno County Farm Bureau, Ryan Jacobsen, CEO

Fontana Chamber of Commerce, Andrea De Leon, Executive Director

Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, Cindy Spindle, President & CEO

Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, Nick Ortiz, President & CEO

Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, Joshua Bonner, President & CEO

Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce, Mark Creffield, President & CEO

Greater Ontario Business Council, Peggi Hazlett, CEO

Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce, Henry Rogers, Executive Director

Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce, Cyndi Lemke, Executive Director

Highland Area Chamber of Commerce, Chris Nielsen, Executive Director

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce San Francisco, Carlos Solórzano, CEO

Inland Empire Economic Partnership, Paul Granillo, President & CEO

International Warehouse Logistics Association, Mike Williams, Executive Director

Kern Citizens for Energy, Tracy Leach, Director

Kern County Economic Development Corporation, Richard Chapman, President & CEO

Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Jay Tamsi, President & CEO

Kern County Taxpayers Association, Mike Turnipseed, President & CEO

Kings County Farm Bureau, Dusty Ference, Executive Director

Latin Business Association, Ruben Guerra, Chief Executive

Long Beach Chambers of Commerce, Jeremy Harris, President & CEO





Los Angeles Business Federation, Tracy Hernandez, Founder & CEO

Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce, Maneesha Jones, President & CEO

Milk Producers Council, Kevin Abernathy, General Manager

Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce, Sandy Ramirez, Chair

Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber of Commerce, Patrick Ellis, President & CEO

Nisei Farmers League, Manuel Cunha Jr., President

Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce, Ignacio Valdivia, President

Pomona Chamber of Commerce, Monique Manzanares, President & CEO

Pro Small Biz CA, Jack Frost, President

Raisin Bargaining Association, Harvey Singh, Chairman

Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce, Robert Hufnagel, President

Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce, Dominik Knoll, President & CEO

Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association, Roy Reed, Board President

Si Se Puede Foundation, Doug Kessler, Executive Director

Small Business California, Scott Hauge, President, and Founder

South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce, Mark Waronek, Chair

Sustainable Agriculture & Energy, Joe Desmond, Executive Director

Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Donna Duperron, President & CEO

Tulare County Farm Bureau, Tricia Stever Blattler, Executive Director

Upland Chamber of Commerce, Peggy Robertson, Vice Chair of Public Affairs

Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business, Louise Lampara, Executive Director

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, Monica Garcia, Chief Executive Officer