

December 13, 2024

BOARD

Vincent Chang

David Diaz

Rafael Gonzalez

Stephanie Ramirez

Wesley Reutimann

Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr
South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 9176

RE: SUPPORT | Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr:

As a community-based organization committed to realizing a more sustainable, equitable, and livable San Gabriel Valley, ActiveSGV strongly supports evidence-based efforts to reduce air pollution, including Rules 1111 and 1121. The proposed regulatory package will achieve more emissions reductions than any other effort passed in over three decades. The rulemaking is also a key step towards implementing the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which determined that “[t]he only way to achieve the required NOx reductions is through extensive use of zero emission technologies across all stationary and mobile sources.”

Given the serious pollution in the region, which remains an extreme nonattainment zone, timely adoption of zero-emission technology is desperately needed. Fortunately zero-emission appliances are quickly becoming a best practice, with the rapid adoption of the technology around the world over the past decade. In light of this track record and the need to accelerate the switch, ActiveSGV is concerned by any attempts to weaken the proposal via delayed compliance deadlines or other loopholes. It is critical that these rules go to the Governing Board in a strong form and be adopted in February 2025.

ActiveSGV is also pleased to see the South Coast AQMD's *Go Zero* program take form. Targeted incentives are essential to realizing an equitable transition to zero emission buildings. It is our understanding that the South Coast AQMD's Executive Officer has committed to a 5-fold increase in the \$21 million allocated to this program. We applaud this effort and urge the Board to endorse an allocation of \$100 million to the new program.

As a public health organization headquartered in El Monte, one of the most pollution-burdened communities in California, ActiveSGV is acutely aware of the health impacts associated with air pollution. **The outcomes of our poor air quality in southern California are devastating. High rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses, as well as cognitive impairments, some cancers, and even obesity have all been linked to exposure to high levels of air pollution.** The cost of these health disparities -- particularly long-term, chronic illnesses such as asthma -- is billions in associated healthcare and diminished productivity to Los Angeles County.

The time is now to adopt clear rules and take a significant step towards implementing the 2022 AQMP. ActiveSGV thanks AQMD staff's extensive work in developing the proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121. We urge the Board and staff to wrap up this rulemaking process as soon as possible, so we can begin the work of eliminating dangerous air pollution from buildings.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at david@activeSGV.org. Thank you for your time and consideration,



David Diaz, MPH
Executive Director