

Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Email: mkrause@aqmd.gov; hfarr@aqmd.gov;

RE: Support for Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr:

On behalf of **Healing and Justice Center**, we write to support the South Coast AQMD's efforts to clean up appliance pollution through amending Rules 1111 and 1121. This proposed regulatory package will achieve more emissions reductions than any other effort passed in over three decades. The effort is also consistent with 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 this region, these health gains from advancing zero-emissions are desperately needed for millions of people. We are deeply concerned that the proposal is getting weakened through delaying compliance deadlines and many loopholes. We encourage staff to reject these efforts to reduce the efficacy of the rule. It is vital that these rules go to the Governing Board in a strong form and be adopted in February.

The Healing and Justice Center (HJC) is a worker self-directed nonprofit dedicated to fostering collective healing and justice for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) individuals, communities, and organizations. Our mission is to create safe, connected spaces where community members can access healing-centered strategies that address the physical, mental, and emotional impacts of systemic oppression. Our advocacy efforts focus on dismantling cycles of trauma and burnout through transformative healing justice models. We believe that sustainable social justice requires holistic practices that uplift communities from survival to thriving.

HJC recognizes the clear and vital intersection between environmental justice, housing stability, and the health and well-being of community residents. Pollution in residential areas disproportionately impacts vulnerable communities, often exacerbating health disparities for those already affected by housing insecurity. Our organization is deeply committed to supporting

¹ South Coast AQMD, 2022 AQMP, at Executive Summary.

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policy changes that reduce environmental burdens on communities of color, ensure safe and healthy housing, and promote the overall well-being of residents. The proposed amendments to South Coast AQMD Rules 1111 and 1121 present an essential opportunity to reduce pollution at its source and ensure that all residents, particularly those in historically underserved neighborhoods, have access to healthier living environments. The adoption of these rules in their strongest form would support our shared vision of healthy, resilient, and just communities where every person can thrive.

We remain pleased to see the South Coast AQMD's Go Zero program take form. These incentives will be really helpful in hastening the transition away from combustion in our 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. It is vital the Board endorse this commitment via resolution to ensure \$100 million goes towards these incentives.

We appreciate AQMD staff's significant work on these proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121. Wrapping up this rulemaking process as soon as possible is vital, so we can work on the important aspects of actually transitioning away from combustion in our homes.

Sincerely,

Jorge Rivera

Executive Co-Director Healing and Justice Center

