



March 21, 2023

Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D. **Executive Officer** California Air Resources Board 1001 "I" Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Incentive Program Review Report for FY 2010/11 – 2018/19

Dear Dr. Cliff,

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Valley Air District) received, and is pleased to accept the referenced California Air Resources Board (CARB) Incentive Program Review Report. This is the largest air district-focused incentive program review conducted by CARB to date as measured by fiscal years reviewed, number of incentive programs covered, individual projects represented and total funding. This program review spanned eleven fiscal years, nine distinct incentive programs and represents almost 13,500 individual incentive projects, totaling more than \$623 million in funding. We are pleased that CARB concluded that the nine programs reviewed are achieving their emissions reduction and program objectives in an effective and efficient manner, and that CARB identified no findings through this thorough program review. The results of this comprehensive review provide strong validation regarding the ongoing effectiveness of the Valley Air District's programs in achieving the intended emission reduction and public health objectives. This program review was supplemented by a companion fiscal review of the same programs, scope and timeframes, conducted by the California Department of Finance (DOF) in 2021-22. In their final report, DOF concluded that, "the incentive programs' revenues, expenditures, and resulting balances were compliant with applicable grant agreements, quidelines, and statutes."

The Valley Air District places tremendous value on program reviews such as these and we truly appreciate the collaborative approach taken by your staff in conducting the review. Throughout this process, your staff was professional, courteous, clear in their communication and cooperative in their overall approach. These critical voluntary incentive programs would not be successful, or even possible without the close partnership between CARB and the Valley Air District. During this review period, the Valley Air District has played a prominent lead role in developing and enhancing several of these statewide programs with CARB including working closely with CARB staff to develop the FARMER Program guidelines, Community Air Protection Program guidelines, and pilot the Enhanced Fleet Modernization/Clean Cars 4 All Program. In addition, the Valley Air District served as statewide administrator for the Lower Emission School Bus Program for a number of years, on behalf of CARB.

Central to the Valley Air District's core belief of continuous improvement, the CARB program review highlighted suggestions for potential administrative enhancements in the Valley Air District's programs. A significant amount of work has already been accomplished in close coordination with CARB in these areas and the Valley Air District will continue to work closely with CARB to evaluate the recommendations, update the state program guidelines where necessary, and implement these enhancements as appropriate. Thank you once again for your partnership in administering these critical programs.

Sincerely

Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

Samir Sheikh Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer