

June 21, 2024

Martha Guzman
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105
guzman.martha@epa.gov

Dear Administrator Guzman:

The California Air Resources Board requests that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provide parallel processing of proposed amendments to the *San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Equipment Incentive Measure* (Valley Incentive Measure) and the *State Implementation Plan Revision for the 15 µg/m³ PM_{2.5} Standard* (15 µg/m³ SIP Revision) contained in the *Staff Report: Review of the San Joaquin Valley 2024 Plan for the 2012 12 µg/m³ Annual PM_{2.5} Standard and Amendments to the Agricultural Equipment Incentive Measure and the 1997 15 µg/m³ State Implementation Plan Revision* (Staff Report). Specifically, the California Air Resources Board is requesting parallel processing of the section titled "Amendments to the 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision and Agricultural Equipment Incentive Measure for the 1997 PM_{2.5} Standard" on pages 53-55 of the Staff Report.

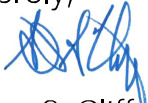
The enclosed Staff Report, as published for public review on June 14, 2024, includes a proposed State Implementation Plan (SIP) amendment to the Valley Incentive Measure to include a quantification of emission reductions for 2023 from existing Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program and Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions Program agricultural equipment projects and a proposed SIP amendment to the 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision to allow the use of the Valley Incentive Measure as a substitute measure to provide emission reductions needed to meet the 2023 aggregate emission reduction commitment in the 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision. The California Air Resources Board will consider the proposed amendments contained in the Staff Report at the July 25, 2024, hearing. If adopted, the proposed amendments contained in the Staff Report related to the Valley Incentive Measure and the 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a revision to the California SIP.

Providing parallel processing of the proposed amendments to the Valley Incentive Measure and 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision contained in the Staff Report is needed for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to find that the State has met its previous commitments for the 15 µg/m³ standard in order to grant the one-year extension of the attainment date for the 15 µg/m³ standard in the San Joaquin Valley to December 31, 2024, as requested in the May 23, 2024, California Air Resources Board letter. In the May 23, 2024, letter, the California Air Resources Board requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency propose action on the request for the one-year attainment date extension before June 30, 2024. The proposed amendments to the Valley Incentive Measure and 15 µg/m³

SIP Revision contained in the Staff Report are being provided to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with this parallel processing request in the hope that this timeline can still be met. Therefore, California Air Resources Board hereby requests parallel processing of the proposed amendments to the Valley Incentive Measure and 15 µg/m³ SIP Revision contained in the Staff Report under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's parallel processing procedure cited in 40 C.F.R., title 51, Appendix V, Section 2.3.

If you have any questions, please contact Edie Chang, Deputy Executive Officer, at (916) 445-4383, or have your staff contact Michael Benjamin, Chief, Air Quality Planning and Science Division, at (916) 201-8968.

Sincerely,



Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D., Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: (with enclosure)

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