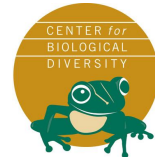




**ANIMAL LEGAL  
DEFENSE FUND**



May 10, 2024

**Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard – We Need You to Stand Strong for Environmental Justice, Clean Air and a Stable Climate.**

Dear Chair Randolph and Members of the Board:

We write as public interest groups across the country to ask the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to do the right thing when it comes to the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Environmental justice, labor union, and social justice colleagues in California have sounded the alarm bell that this program harms people across the State, from the fenceline of factory farms to the residents living in the shadows of refineries. In fact, the program has incentivized harm in similar rural and urban communities across the country. The program amendments proposed by CARB staff extend to 2045, so this rulemaking is critical to send the right investment and policy signals for decades to come.

Unfortunately, the current proposal will continue to drive investment toward false climate solutions that perpetuate environmental injustice across the country and undermine CARB's efforts to transform our transportation system toward truly zero-emissions solutions. Furthermore, we are disturbed that CARB staff appear to be moving away from including intrastate jet fuel in the LCFS instead of expanding the scope of coverage to include interstate and international flights. We need the Board to do what California groups have called for, which is to Fix the LCFS.

The Board's guiding light should be to use the LCFS to support the advancements that make CARB a world leader in air and climate action. Doing so means:

- Ending lavish incentives to factory farms across the country to produce methane and factory farm gas that California does not need. Not only is methane-producing liquified manure management a choice but also CARB has an obligation to regulate that methane rather than subsidize its creation.
- Capping the unfettered rise of biofuels, which pose grave risks to our climate and ecosystems, and which are driving a glut of credits that is weighing down the program.
- Enhancing support for truly zero-emissions solutions, like electric school and transit buses, that deliver multiple long-term benefits, like VMT and air pollution reductions.
- Not relying on offset projects like direct air capture and factory farm gas to decarbonize the transportation sector, as this is a way for the oil industry to justify its continued operations and pollution in communities. These projects will perpetuate the oil industry's environmental racism in communities across the country.

We need the Board and the Governor of California to understand that this program impacts many people in California and beyond. For those of us outside of California, we see polluting projects in our communities justified because California's LCFS is sending the wrong investment signals. And we fear more will come down the line. CARB Staff's proposal does not align with what the Board has voted on through other regulations.

We recognize that policy reform can be hard when it requires standing up against incumbent industries like the oil industry, the methane industry, and big agricultural interests. But we ask you to place the health of communities and the climate ahead of these powerful and entrenched interests and fix the LCFS.

Sincerely,

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CC: Governor Newsom