

May 8, 2026

The Honorable José Luis Solache, Jr.  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5110  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblymember Solache:

Thank you for your letter regarding the 2025 Petition for Review of the Toxic Air Contaminant Human Health Assessment for Hexavalent Chromium Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 39662(e). The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is reviewing the request and met with the petitioners to discuss the new scientific evidence underlying their request. We look forward to continued engagement on this important issue with the industry generally, the petitioners, and especially the Legislature.

Regarding the regulation in question, you may find it helpful to know that in 2022 the Legislature gave CARB the following direction (AB 211, Chapter 574, Statutes of 2022):

SEC. 38. It is the intent of the Legislature, upon an appropriation in the Budget Act for the 2023-24 fiscal year for these purposes, to enact future legislation that would make ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) available to the State Air Resources Board to assist with the necessary transition away from the use of hexavalent chromium. It is the further intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would do all of the following:

(a) Make this funding available upon the board's adoption of an air emission rule to fully eliminate hexavalent chromium at all decorative and functional chromium plating facilities and chromic acid anodizing facilities statewide.

CARB followed this Legislative direction, and the Legislature subsequently included the following in The Budget Act of 2023 (AB 221, Chapter 38, Statutes of 2023):

The funds appropriated in Schedule (2) shall be used to further reduce emissions from chromium plating operations by transitioning away from the use of hexavalent chromium.

The Placer County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has grant administration experience with other statewide programs and was the only district to express interest in administering this fund for CARB. They are serving as the statewide administrator to distribute the funds and as of April 2026, two facilities have submitted applications for funding.

Thank you again for your letter. If you have any questions, please contact David Ernest García, Ph.D., Legislative Director, by email at [David.Garcia@arb.ca.gov](mailto:David.Garcia@arb.ca.gov).

The Honorable José Luis Solache, Jr.

May 8, 2026

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Sanchez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lauren" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Sanchez".

Lauren Sanchez, Chair

cc: The Honorable Anna Caballero  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7620  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Tom Umberg  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6610  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Bob Archuleta  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6620  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Susan Rubio  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 8710  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Timothy Grayson  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7250  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Blanca Rubio  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5250  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Michelle Rodriguez  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5640  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Blanca Pacheco  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4510  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Juan Alanis  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4640  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Lori D. Wilson  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 8110  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Greg Wallis  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4330  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4210  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Juan Carillo  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5610  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Esmeralda Soria  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4110  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Heath Flora  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4740  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6510  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable José Luis Solache, Jr.  
May 8, 2026  
Page 4

The Honorable Jessica Caloza  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5620  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Brian Jones  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7640  
Sacramento, California 95814

Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D., Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board

David Ernest García, Ph.D., Legislative Director, California Air Resources Board

The Honorable José Luis Solache, Jr.

May 8, 2026

Page 5

bcc: Ms. Christine Aurre, Legislative Affairs Secretary  
Office of Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, 9th Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814  
[christine.aurre@gov.ca.gov](mailto:christine.aurre@gov.ca.gov)

Ms. Megan Mekelburg, Deputy Legislative Secretary  
Office of Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, 9th Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814  
[megan.mekelburg@gov.ca.gov](mailto:megan.mekelburg@gov.ca.gov)

Ms. Ana Melendez, Deputy Secretary for Legislative Affairs, California Environmental  
Protection Agency  
[ana.melendez@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:ana.melendez@calepa.ca.gov)