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COMMITTEES
CHAIR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
GROWTH, AND HOUSEHOLD IMPACT
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET
ELECTIONS
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON
HEALTH

April 21, 2026

Chair Lauren Sanchez
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: June 30, 2025 Petition for Review of the Toxic Air Contaminant Human Health Assessment for Hexavalent Chromium

Dear Chair Sanchez:

We have recently learned a coalition of 18 trade associations representing over 500,000 California businesses submitted a Health and Safety Code section 39662(e) petition to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on June 30, 2025, asking CARB to reevaluate the inhalation unit risk factor (IUR) for hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)) based on significant new scientific evidence that was not available when California developed its current health assessment and IUR in 1985 (Petition).¹ In response, CARB initially stated it does not plan to initiate a review of the Cr(VI) IUR at this time, but will add it to a list “for possible future consideration.” We are pleased to hear that CARB has recently reconsidered this position and has requested a briefing from the petitioners on the scientific basis of the Petition.

We expect that this briefing will be the first step in a comprehensive review of the Petition pursuant to CARB’s own established policy and practice set forth in the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants (SRP) Process for Evaluation and Response to Submittals of New Scientific Information as Evidence for Review of Toxic Air Contaminant Risk Assessments (SRP Guidance).² CARB must address the possibility that the existing IUR, which is used in implementation of state and local air toxics regulatory programs,³ is not supported by the best available science. It is critically important that CARB’s actions in response to the Petition

¹ Coalition Letter to Elizabeth Scheehle and Bonnie Holmes-Gen, CARB, Re: Petition for Review of the Toxic Air Contaminant Human Health Assessment for Hexavalent Chromium Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 39662(e) (Jun. 30, 2025), pp. 28-29.

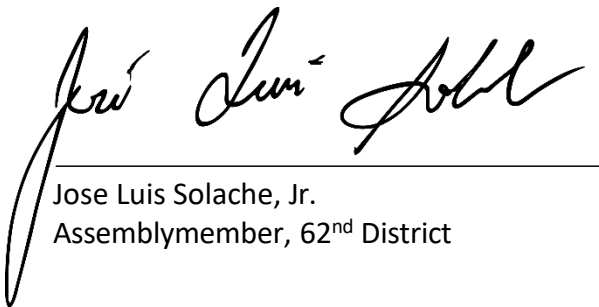
² [SRP Guidance](#) (Dec. 12, 1989).

³ Examples include Air Toxic Control Measures adopted pursuant to the Toxic Air Contaminant Identification and Control law, risk assessment, risk communication, and risk management actions pursuant to the Air Toxic Hot Spots Information and Assessment Act, and local air quality management districts’ air toxics rules.

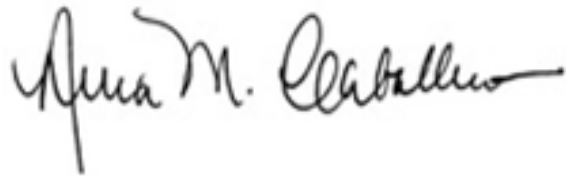
confirm California’s commitment to science-based decision making and demonstrate that CARB is not and will not make health risk decisions based on assumptions from antiquated data. CARB must determine whether the Petition satisfies the minimum criteria set forth in the SRP Guidance to warrant review of the existing IUR in consultation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), and must provide for independent evaluation by the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants (SRP).⁴

Confirming that the Cr(VI) IUR is supported by the best available science, or revising it as warranted by current scientific evidence, is necessary to ensure that CARB is not providing false or misleading health information to the public and is not placing unnecessary regulatory burdens on California businesses. We look forward to confirming, as soon as possible, that CARB has initiated the SRP Process to evaluate this Petition.

Sincerely,



Jose Luis Solache, Jr.
Assemblymember, 62nd District



Anna Caballero
Senator, 14th District



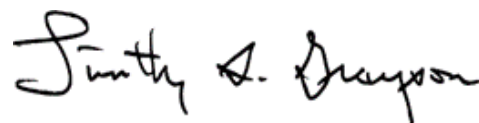
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Senator, 30th District



Susan Rubio
Senator, 22nd District



Timothy Grayson
Senator, 09th District

⁴ A separate letter submitted to CARB by the petitioners, dated December 10, 2025, describing the implementation of this process in the context of a 2002 petition to CARB to update the original toxic air contaminant risk assessment for formaldehyde, which closely tracks the review process established by the SRP and reference in footnote number 3



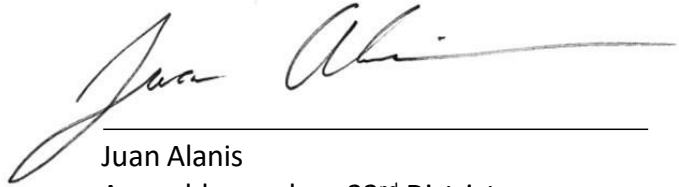
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