

July 29, 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 June 8, 2026 letter regarding the June 30, 2025 petition requesting review of the Toxic Air Contaminant Human Health Assessment for Hexavalent Chromium.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) bases its determinations and regulatory actions on the best available science, consistent with the legislative findings and declarations in the Toxic Air Contaminant Identification and Control Act. Consistent with that responsibility, CARB is actively reviewing the hexavalent chromium petition. Our staff have met with the petitioners to discuss the scientific evidence they submitted, and we have discussed in detail the data they used, and the relevant studies relied upon to support petitioners' conclusions regarding hexavalent chromium health risk. As communicated to the petitioners, we are currently awaiting datasets to continue our technical review of the key studies and findings presented to us.

We recognize that health values used in risk assessments for facilities emitting hexavalent chromium and other air toxics have important implications for the implementation of local air district programs as well as statewide regulatory efforts. Any updates to scientific health values must therefore be carefully considered to ensure consistency, transparency, and public health protection across programs.

CARB works closely with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) on the development and review of health values for toxic air contaminants. Our agencies have several ongoing priorities related to the review of scientific information and health values, each of which requires substantial time for thorough assessment of the underlying studies. To help manage these priorities and provide transparency for all stakeholders, we will be initiating a public process in the next year to gather input on the range of scientific review needs on toxic air contaminants before CARB and OEHHA. This process will help inform prioritization of scientific evaluations moving forward.

We will reach out to you and your colleagues when this public process begins to ensure you have timely information and opportunities to participate.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Sanchez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lauren" and last name "Sanchez" clearly distinguishable.

Lauren Sanchez, Chair
California Air Resources Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristina Thayer". The signature is in a cursive script, with the first name "Kristina" and last name "Thayer" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Kristina Thayer, Director
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

cc: Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D., Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board
David Ernest Garcia, Ph.D., Legislative Director, California Air Resources Board
David C. Edwards, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Director, OEHHA
Amy Gilson, Ph.D, Deputy Director for External and Legislative Affairs