

**Save The Air in Nevada County****STA in NC**

530-274-3760

[www.stainnc.org](http://www.stainnc.org)

July 23, 2008

Dr. Susan Fischer  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Via Fax: 916-322-3928****Re: Comments on *Planned Air Pollution Research, Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Cluster Analysis of Air Quality and Meteorology Data for 1996-2008***

Dear Dr. Fischer:

On behalf of our board and members, Save the Air in Nevada County (STA in NC) strongly supports funding of the ARB's research project "Cluster Analysis of Air Quality and Meteorology Data for 1996-2008" (California Air Resources Board, 2008. *Planned Air Pollution Research, Fiscal Year 2008-2009*, p. 15, [www.arb.ca.gov/research/apr/plan/fy08-09/plan08-9.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/apr/plan/fy08-09/plan08-9.pdf)), and we also urge you to include the Mountain Counties Air Basin (MCAB), and the Western Nevada County area in particular, within the proposed research project.

All counties within the MCAB south of Sierra County are currently in non-attainment of California's ozone standards. Available evidence indicates that this problem is primarily attributable to the transport of ozone and its precursors from the Sacramento region and the San Francisco Bay Area. The ARB Staff Report "Assessment of the Impacts of Transported Pollutants on Ozone Concentrations in California," dated March 2001, characterizes transport from the Broader Sacramento Area to the MCAB as "overwhelming," and transport from the San Francisco Bay Area to the MCAB as "significant." Should this research project be funded, we believe that the inclusion of the Mountain Counties Air Basin will greatly increase our knowledge of how meteorological factors contribute to ozone transport into our region and help focus efforts to mitigate the continuing ozone air pollution problem in the Sierra foothill communities.

Save the Air in Nevada County (STA in NC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization formed by concerned Nevada County residents in 2007 to: (1) better understand the problem of ozone and its health impacts through research and additional monitoring, and (2) help inform our community of methods to address the problem and its impacts on our lives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Marina Bernheimer in cursive script.

Marina Bernheimer  
Director, STA in NC