

May 12, 2008

Mary D. Nichols
Chairman of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
P. O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Ms. Nichols:

The California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CHCC) represents the interests of over 425,000 Hispanic-owned businesses in the State of California. CHCC is the premier and largest regional Hispanic business organization in the nation that promotes the economic growth and development of Hispanic entrepreneurs.

CHCC supports the goals of AB 32 (The Global Warming Solutions Act) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a balanced, cost-effective way.

While we support AB 32 and recognize the benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we are concerned about the potential for greatly increased electricity, natural gas and gasoline costs. If implemented incorrectly, AB 32 could mean billions of dollars more in higher gasoline and utility bills. That hurts all consumers, but it will be especially painful to California's low-income families who pay a higher percentage of their incomes for energy.

We understand that one way your agency is thinking about keeping AB 32 costs down is through a cap and trade program. While it is important to get the details of a program right, our understanding is that cap and trade systems have helped reduce emissions elsewhere in the United States and are being used in Europe too.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns, and please keep our community in mind when deciding how best to implement AB 32.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Macias, D.P.A., M.B.A., CPA

Chairman of the Board

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

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