May 13, 2008

Ms. Mary Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Ms. Nichols:

We support your efforts to attack global warming, but we’re very concerned how much implementing AB 32 will cost our agency in higher energy costs.

We are especially concerned about what higher electricity and gasoline costs will be. We respectfully request the Air Board to conduct a detailed analysis of how the higher energy costs for electricity, natural gas, gasoline and diesel will particularly impact local governments in California. As you are aware, local governments and school districts facing very difficult budget decisions this year which may require cutting vital services. If AB 32 increases our energy costs to operate our fleets and facilities this would mean cutting these vital services even further.

In addition to calculating costs to local governments we urge the board to consider ways to reduce the overall costs of the AB 32 program by considering creative new approaches to cut emissions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Lupe Alvarez
Mayor