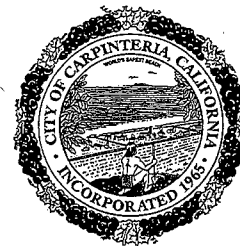


CITY of CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA



May 30, 2008

Members of the City Council

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

Michael Ledbetter, Mayor
Gregg Carty, Vice Mayor
J. Bradley Stein
Joe Armendariz
Al Clark

Dear Ms. Nichols:

The City of Carpinteria has a well-deserved reputation for being progressive on environmental issues. Our community has demonstrated its commitment to protecting our natural resources through open space acquisition and the promotion of green building standards.

As a council member, I am especially committed to working with your Administration to promote these values statewide and nationwide.

However, as someone who also works closely with local business and industry, I understand the impact that rising energy costs can have on an organizations bottom line.

Therefore, with respect to the implementation of AB32, your Administration, particularly the California Air Resources Board (CARB), should conduct a thorough analysis of how higher electricity, natural gas, gasoline and diesel costs will impact my agency's general fund as well as those of other small public agencies throughout our state.

Local governments are already facing difficult budget decisions this year and many local jurisdictions are already facing the possibility of significant cuts to vital services including public safety, mental health and street maintenance.

In addition to calculating costs to local governments in California, we urge CARB to consider innovative ways to reduce the overall costs of the AB 32 program by considering market-oriented approaches as opposed to top down mandates.

I appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Joe Armendariz
Council member
City of Carpinteria

