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Agency Secretary, Garcia

Subject: Urgent Need for Review and Action on Factory Farm Biogas Inclusion in LCFS Amendments

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024 2:23:49 PM

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Dear Members of the California Air Resources Board,

I am writing as an environmental attorney deeply concerned about the recent proceedings related to the proposed amendments to the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). It has come to my attention that during the public workshop held on April 10th, crucial discussions about the incentivization of factory farm biogas were conspicuously absent from the agenda.

This omission is particularly alarming given the direct instructions from CARB's leadership to address this issue thoroughly and to seek equitable solutions. The LCFS, while a California policy, is influencing the expansion of factory farms and biogas projects across the United States, affecting states such as Arizona, Idaho, and New York, among others. This has placed undue burdens on rural communities and has raised significant environmental and public health concerns that deserve immediate attention and action.

It is disheartening to observe that instead of fostering an open dialogue about these critical impacts, there appears to be a deliberate attempt by CARB staff to shield the program from scrutiny and protect investor profits at the expense of the communities affected by these policies. Such actions undermine the integrity of CARB as a regulatory body and erode public trust in its commitment to environmental justice and public health.

As an advocate for the environment and the rights of communities impacted by these policies, I urge Governor Newsom and the CARB board members to take immediate corrective measures. It is essential to ensure that the LCFS does not continue to promote harmful factory farm biogas production under the guise of sustainable development.

I demand a reevaluation of the LCFS amendments to prioritize the health and well-being of all affected communities, particularly those in California's Central Valley, who bear the brunt of these environmental injustices. We must align the LCFS with practices that support true sustainable energy solutions and uphold CARB's mission to protect the environment and public health.

Thank you for considering this critical matter. I look forward to your prompt response and to seeing significant adjustments in the policy to reflect these concerns.

Sincerely, Manny



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