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13 May 2008

Mary Nichols
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento CA 95812

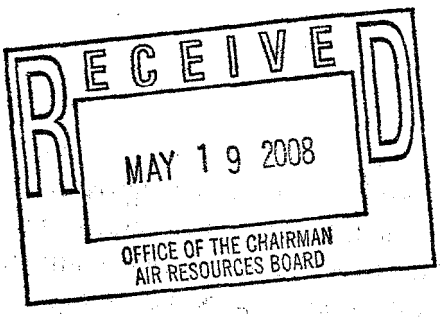
Dear Ms Nichols,

Two years ago AB 32 was passed by the legislature with a blueprint for California to reduce carbon emissions and combat global warming. However, the mechanism for implementing that legislation has not been implemented yet and CARB is currently debating how to implement the law.

If California sets up a system requiring large polluters to hold permits for their emissions, it is essential that they pay for those permits to emit greenhouse gases. Permits should not be given away free. A good way to set prices of permits would be through an auction to provide real incentive for polluters to reduce carbon emissions. We all know that money increases incentives to act. An auction would raise additional revenue to promote clean, renewable energy and for administering the program for these permits. A free ride is not the way.

Thank you for your valuable work in this area.

Sincerely,

Misha Askren

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