

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Ray Gennawey Mayor Pro Tem Gene Johns Council Member Kelly Jennings Council Member Stephanie Oddo Council Member Stephanie Winstead

May 27, 2025

Hon. Vanessa Delgado, Chair South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board 21865 Copley Dr. Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Dear Chair Delgado and Governing Board Members -

The City of Laguna Niguel is aware of two proposed rules being advanced by SCAQMD staff for consideration by your Governing Board. On behalf of our City's residents, business owners, organizations, and city employees, we strongly oppose Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121.

The City's adopted Legislative Platform opposes legislation that places undue hardships on cities to implement new environmental regulations. As proposed, Rule 1111 would regulate air emissions from gas-powered central furnaces, and Rule 1121 would regulate air emissions from residential-type, natural gas-powered water heaters. While air quality concerns are important, the estimated cost to consumers should Rules 1111 and 1121 be adopted is upwards of \$20 billion while providing minimal measurable air quality benefits for the four-county SCAQMD service area.

We believe that if Rules 1111 and 1121 are adopted by the Governing Board, the high costs of compliance will increase the cost-of-living crisis challenging Californians and making housing less affordable. The current versions of PAR 1111 and 1121 will lead to a variety of negative consequences impacting jobs and forcing families to move out-of-state. We urge the SCAQMD Governing Board to amend its approach to prioritize flexibility, affordability, and community resilience.

Should you have any questions about our position, please contact Kevin O'Connor, Management Assistant, at <u>koconnor@cityoflagunaniguel.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Ray Gennawey Mayor