

June 5, 2025

Clerk of the Board South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765

RE: In Support – Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board,

We are writing to encourage you to vote *yes* on Rules 1111 and 1121. These standards represent a pragmatic and flexible step forward in addressing a major and too-often overlooked contributor to Southern California's persistent smog problem: pollution from gas-burning appliances in our homes.

These rules do not ban gas appliances or require an immediate shift to zero-emission technologies. Instead, they set phased sales targets for manufacturers, starting at 30% clean technologies in 2027-2028 and increasing to 90% by 2036. This is a practical, phased-in approach that staff estimate will save 2,500 lives and deliver more than \$25 billion in health benefits. These standards are the product of a robust two-year rulemaking process and build on the agency's strong legacy of delivering clean air for Californians.

This policy builds on growing state-level support to help households transition to clean, efficient alternatives like heat pumps. In addition to sustained funding commitments to building decarbonization, including recent boosts for local funding in South Coast territory from the Aliso Canyon settlements, the state has passed significant legislation including Senate Bill 1221 (Min, 2024), establishing neighborhood electrification pilots.

In fact, thanks to combined state, local, and utility programs, many low-income families in Southern California can <u>save \$2,400 to \$4,200</u> upfront when choosing heat pumps over traditional systems for heating, cooling, and water heating. SCAQMD will also launch its own incentive program, <u>Go Zero</u>, this year, which will direct 75% of its initial funding toward disadvantaged communities. Moving forward, we will continue to provide rigorous oversight to ensure technologies are affordable for consumers and that cleaner solutions are deployed in communities most burdened by pollution.

Clean air is not a partisan issue. Californians of every race, class, and political affiliation deserve protection from pollution. We are grateful for the District's long legacy of leadership on this front, and we urge you to take advantage of this profound opportunity to improve health, cut pollution, and increase access to affordable, efficient cooling as heat worsens across the LA basin.

With consumer protections and clean air standards being dismantled across the country, it's imperative that California leaders keep making progress on air quality and stand up to all efforts to distort the truth about the importance of policy. Thank you for your many decades of clean air leadership and we look forward to your continued partnership in creating a healthier California for all.

Sincerely,

Senator Henry Stern SD-27

Senator Caroline Menjivar SD-20

Senator Ben Allen SD-24

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan AD-55