

City of La Habra

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

"A Caring Community"

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February 21, 2025

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

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO SCAQMD PROPOSED RULES 1111 AND 1121

Dear Chair Delgado and the Board of Directors:

On behalf of the City of La Habra, I am writing to express our opposition to the proposed amendments to South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rules 1111 and 1112. While we remain committed to improving air quality and protecting public health, we have serious concerns regarding the economic and practical impacts these amendments would impose on our residents, businesses, and local government operations.

Rule 1111 and Rule 1112, as currently proposed, would require stringent emissions reductions for natural gasfired furnaces and water heaters. While we acknowledge the intent of these rules, the costs of compliance for homeowners, small businesses, and other organizations would be significant. Many residents of La Habra, particularly those in lower-income households, may struggle to afford the necessary retrofits or replacements of their appliances. Moreover, we believe that the high cost of compliance will force owners of older multifamily properties to sell or redevelop their properties, subsequently resulting in a dramatic reduction in the availability of affordable housing in our City and across the region.

Additionally, we are concerned about the potential for supply chain disruptions and the availability of compliant appliances. The transition period outlined in the proposed amendments does not appear to account for the practical challenges of widespread equipment replacement, including workforce readiness, infrastructure adaptation, and market availability.

Given these concerns, we respectfully urge the SCAQMD to reconsider these amendments and work collaboratively with local governments, businesses, and residents to develop more balanced solutions. We encourage the consideration of incentives, phased implementation plans, and alternative compliance pathways that minimize economic hardship while still advancing air quality goals.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and welcome the opportunity for further discussion on this important issue. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office at (562) 383-4010 should you require additional information or wish to discuss potential alternatives.

Sincerely, Rose Espinoza Mayor