



LONG BEACH ALLIANCE
FOR CLEAN ENERGY



LUTHERAN OFFICE
of PUBLIC POLICY
-CALIFORNIA



Via Electronic Mail

February 19, 2025

Chair Delgado and Members of the Governing Board
South Coast Air Quality Management District
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Diamond Bar, CA 91765
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Clerk of the Board: clerkofboard@aqmd.gov
Jen Vinh: jvinh@aqmd.gov

Re: Support for Proposed Amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear Chair Delgado and Members of the Stationary Source Committee:

The undersigned groups stand in united support of proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121, which, if enacted, will address NOx emissions from natural gas-fired, fan type central furnaces and residential type, natural gas-fired water heaters by requiring these appliances to be phased out over time and replaced with zero-emission appliances.

There are 1.3 million gas floor and wall furnaces in use in the Southern California area. Gas-powered appliances are significant sources of NOx emissions and PM 2.5 in the South Coast Basin. Additionally, the Los Angeles Basin suffers from the worst air quality in the nation; with communities of color most affected. Requiring a change to pollution-free appliances can eliminate 12% of our region's NOx emissions from stationary sources. The Bay Area AQMD has already adopted stronger standards for appliances. Consistency in regulations is important to make the transitions needed to reduce NOx emissions across California.

With the advancement of climate change, more homes will need HVAC systems to get through hotter summers, making this rule even more impactful. Heat pumps are highly efficient and will result in lower electric bills for consumers. Moreover, California has made such progress in generating clean energy that there are times during summer months when there is a surplus of grid-available clean energy. This, combined with the increasing amount of battery storage, indicates that phasing in the installation of these zero-emission appliances will not cause undue strain on our electrical grid.

We applaud the SCAQMD for its pilot program, the Go Zero Rebate Program, funded by mitigation fees, with anticipated initial funding of \$21M and the provision that 75% of these funds are dedicated to disadvantaged communities who need it the most. There are also discounts, rebates and incentives available to make zero-emission space heaters and water heaters affordable. Combining this with weatherization programs can make a real difference in NOx emissions in the South Coast basin. We strongly urge SCAQMD to create a prioritization list for the Go Zero Rebate Program where the emissions reduction potential is the greatest and is coextensive with the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

We thank the SCAQMD staff for their thoughtfulness in drafting these amendments and strongly support their passage.

Sincerely,

350 Southland Legislative Alliance
Sherry Lear, Steering Committee

350 South Bay Los Angeles
Sherry Lear, Organizer

350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
Alan Weiner, Chapter Lead

SoCal 350 Climate Action
Jack Eidt, Co-Founder

Ban SUP
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Indivisible Alta Pasadena
Anita Ghazarian, Lead

Pink Panthers
Bill Sive, West Coast Coordinator

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Dave Shukla

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Regina Banks

Indivisible Ca Green Team
Jennifer Tanner

Rooted in Resistance (Indivisible)
Ruth Richardson

Climate Reality Project Riverside County Chapter
David J Marrett, PhD

Third Act SoCal Chapter
Phil Glosserman, Lead Coordinator

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