



February 20, 2025

Chair Delgado, Committee Chair McCallon, and Members of the Governing Board
South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Email: vdelgado@aqmd.gov
lmccallon@aqmd.gov
Clerk of the Board, cob@aqmd.gov

**RE: Stationary Source Committee Agenda Item No. 2 – Strong Support for
Appliance Rule Amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121**

Dear Chair Delgado, Committee Chair McCallon, and Members of the Board:

LA Forward Institute supports South Coast AQMD's efforts to clean up appliance pollution by creating zero-NO_x standards. If done right, amending Rules 1111 and 1121 to achieve zero-NO_x for furnaces and water heaters will achieve more emissions reductions than any other effort passed in over three decades. Getting to zero-NO_x for these appliances is also consistent with the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which determined that "[t]he only way to achieve the required NO_x reductions is through extensive use of zero-emission technologies across all stationary and mobile sources."¹ The current approach developed by staff addresses the concerns of critics, and their continued discontent makes no sense. We need you to be a strong regulator and recognize the health benefits to our region depend on adopting rules to clean up appliance pollution.

After more than a year of vetting, the staff have developed a proposal that will allow people to buy fossil fuel combusting products if they want. But it will compel the deployment of healthier zero emitting appliances. The staff have struck a compromise that needs to press forward. With that said, there are two ways where the proposal could be strengthened. First, the proposal should increase compliance percentage targets for manufacturers. Second, the mitigation fees should be consistent with emissions impacts.

Please adopt these rules in May, so we can set a market signal and start doing the work of getting the burning of fossil fuels out of our buildings.

¹ South Coast AQMD, 2022 AQMP, at Executive Summary.

LA Forward Institute is a multiracial, cross-class, intergenerational community of Angelenos who work for policies that will make our region a fair, flourishing place for everyone. Our civic education, community organizing, and policy advocacy work engages hundreds of thousands of people across Los Angeles County. Addressing air pollution in a real and comprehensive way is a top interest of our members and the people we engage.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Levitus".

David Levitus, Ph.D.
Executive Director
LA Forward Institute