



March 7, 2017

Chairman Mary Nichols
Members of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Expanded Public Health Evaluation of the 2030 Scoping Plan

Dear Chairman Nichols and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the undersigned public health organizations, we are writing to request that the California Air Resources Board support the completion of an expanded public health analysis of the proposed 2030 Scoping Plan and alternatives. Climate change is first and foremost as a public health issue and public health organizations and health professionals are actively supporting California's leadership to fight greenhouse gas pollution. Therefore, more public health information is needed to fully evaluate the benefits and impacts of the plan and inform implementation efforts.

We strongly support California's climate change leadership and view the 2030 Scoping Plan as a critical milestone in the road ahead. While some elements of a health analysis have been completed in the past scoping plan process, there has not been a comprehensive health analysis completed that goes beyond direct air pollution impacts. This would include evaluating the potential positive and negative health outcomes of the full range of strategies and scenarios included in the plan, including a discussion of potential changes in a range of chronic disease rates including lung disease, heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses. We appreciate the information staff presented recently at a scoping plan workshop on the health benefits of active transportation and believe this is a key example of the type of information that should be included in this health analysis. Both AB 32 and AB 197 call for more detailed health assessments as part of developing the state's climate plan.

Therefore, we urge the California Air Resources Board to support and fund the completion of an independent health assessment of the measures contained in the proposed Scoping Plan, along with alternatives presented in the document as soon as possible. A comprehensive, qualitative health assessment is well within the capabilities of the health research community and can both provide the board with the ability to make relative comparisons between the measures included in the Scoping Plan proposal and inform implementation.

We look forward to working with you, other board members and staff to ensure the 2030 Scoping Plan is developed and implemented in ways that maximize health benefits as we continue to lead the fight against climate change. We stand ready to assist in the development and design of the expanded independent health assessment and expedite its completion.

cc: Richard Corey, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board

Sincerely,

Kula Koenig, Government Relations Director, California
American Heart Association

Bonnie Holmes-Gen, Charter Director, Air Quality and Climate
American Lung Association in California

Adele Amodeo, Executive Director
California Public Health Association – North

Linda Rudolph, MD, MPH, Director
**Center for Climate Change and Health
Public Health Institute**

Matthew Marsom, Vice President for Public Policy and Programs
Public Health Institute