



Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr
South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
December 13, 2024
Via Email: mkrause@aqmd.gov; hfarr@aqmd.gov

RE: Support for Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear Mr. Krause and Ms. Farr:

On behalf of Climate Action Campaign, we write to support the South Coast AQMD's efforts to clean up appliance pollution through amending Rules 1111 and 1121. This proposed regulatory package will achieve more emissions reductions than any other effort passed in over three decades. The effort is also consistent with the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which determined that "[t]he only way to achieve the required NOx reductions is through extensive use of zero emission technologies across all stationary and mobile sources."¹ Given the serious pollution in this region, these health gains from advancing zero-emissions are desperately needed for millions of people. We are deeply concerned that the proposal is getting weakened through delaying compliance deadlines and many loopholes. We encourage staff to reject these efforts to reduce the efficacy of the rule. It is vital that these rules go to the Governing Board in a strong form and be adopted in February.

Air pollution remains a significant threat in the South Coast region, where the dense population and high levels of industrial activity combine to create some of the worst air quality in the nation. The region frequently fails to meet federal and state air quality standards for pollutants like nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulate matter (PM), both of which are harmful to public health. Appliance pollution, particularly from gas-fired furnaces, water heaters, and stoves, is a major contributor to these emissions. By transitioning to zero-emissions technologies, we can dramatically reduce harmful pollutants that cause respiratory issues, heart disease, and other chronic health conditions. The impacts of appliance pollution are felt most acutely by vulnerable populations, including low-income communities and communities of color, who disproportionately live near sources of pollution and experience higher rates of asthma, lung disease, and other related illnesses. Strengthening the proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121 will ensure that we take meaningful steps to protect public health and achieve the necessary air quality improvements.

We are pleased to see the South Coast AQMD's Go Zero program take form. These

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

incentives will help hasten the transition away from combustion in our buildings. It is our understanding that the South Coast AQMD's Executive Officer has committed to a five-fold increase in the \$21 million allocated to this program. It is vital the Board endorse this commitment via resolution to ensure \$100 million goes towards these incentives.

We appreciate AQMD staff's significant work on these proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121. Wrapping up this rulemaking process as soon as possible is vital, so we can work on the important aspects of actually transitioning away from combustion in our homes.

Sincerely,

David Martinez
Orange County Climate Equity Advocate and Organizer
Climate Action Campaign