



Los Angeles Area  
Chamber of Commerce

September 10, 2010

The Honorable Mary Nichols, Chair  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I street  
P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812

**RE: Proposed SB 375 Targets for Southern California**

Dear Chairman Nichols:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, I would like to voice our strong concerns about the potential use of these new CARB emission reduction targets for the Southern California region to stop or deter the creation of new jobs in California; especially if all of the conditions outlined in the August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 staff report: Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets for Automobiles and Light Trucks Pursuant to SB 375 are not met.

Our members want cleaner air in Southern California and they are working toward that goal every day. What we do not want is to create a scenario in which businesses bear the burden of unrealistic expectations when governments for whatever reason do not provide the necessary infrastructure to meet the targets being set.

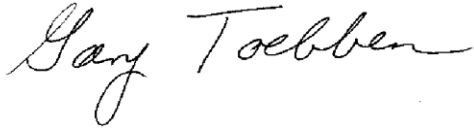
While we all need goals to spur advancement, we are concerned that these targets will have the unintended consequence of making it easier to file lawsuits and say no to good projects that would create new jobs and new housing in our communities. We are looking for targets and recommendations from CARB that balance emission goals with California's severe need to provide jobs and housing for its residents.

We are sure that you are well aware that individuals have more options to reduce their vehicle miles traveled than do many businesses, especially those that provide on-site services to their customers and need a vehicle to provide that service. It has been estimated by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) that the targets under consideration have the potential to increase vehicle operating costs five-fold and that businesses will be forced to pay fines or mitigation fees under CEQA in order to receive necessary building permits.

Local governments are expected to play a major role in providing the transportation improvements envisioned, but funding is not provided to finance these endeavors. In that case, businesses will have limited flexibility and will be left carrying the entire financial burden in order to meet the targets.

We urge CARB to develop achievable reduction targets and a plan that balances the needs of cleaning our air with the need to create new jobs, and in so doing, create a win-win scenario. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Duboff at [jduboff@lachamber.com](mailto:jduboff@lachamber.com) or 213.580.7558.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Toebben". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Toebben  
President & CEO