



Good for the Economy.  
Good for the Environment.

April 16, 2020

Chair Nichols and Members of the Board  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Nichols and Members of the Board,

During this period of extreme hardship, I am writing on behalf of E2 (Environmental Entrepreneurs) and our network of 2,500 members and supporters in California. While the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) are rippling across the country, E2 recognizes that addressing the health and safety of communities and workers affected by the virus is paramount. I write to express business support for preserving regulations and advancing rulemakings that address climate change and drive economic growth during this unprecedented health crisis. While the health and economic toll of COVID-19 is without equal, addressing this immediate crisis can be solved while tackling the climate crisis. In fact, by staying the course on critical priorities, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) can ensure California's clean technology industries remain an economic engine of job growth and help propel the state's economic recovery.

E2 is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors and professionals from every sector of the economy who advocate for smart policies that are good for the economy and good for the environment. E2 members have founded or funded more than 2,500 companies, created more than 600,000 jobs, and currently manage more than \$100 billion in venture and private equity capital. Our members have led efforts to pass many of California's landmark climate laws and worked with CARB to implement some of the world's most ambitious and economically beneficial clean technology policies.

While addressing climate change and pollution, California's strategic policy leadership has created markets and driven significant investment and job growth in California's clean technology economy. According to E2's [2020 Clean Jobs America](#) report, California leads the nation with over 530,000 jobs in sectors ranging from renewable energy generation, clean fuels and electric transportation, and energy efficiency.<sup>1</sup> California climate policies have fostered extraordinary economic development and the state's clean energy economy employs five times more Californians than all fossil fuel industries combined.<sup>2</sup>

The success of California's transportation electrification industry demonstrates how CARB policies create and grow markets and put Californians to work. A March 2020 [report by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation](#) (LAEDC) determined that electric vehicle employment in Southern California is growing almost twice as fast as jobs in general and estimates industry growth of 27.8 percent between 2018 and 2023. As the senior director at LAEDC, Judy Kruger, told the [L.A. Times](#), "state environmental goals brought this market to California. The environmental goals and policy attracted market solutions." Additionally, California's policy leadership has rippled across the country, including 13 other states that have adopted elements of California's Advanced Clean Cars program, and our

<sup>1</sup> Data from Q4 2019, prior to the COVID-19 crisis

<sup>2</sup> [E2 2019 Clean Jobs California](#)

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state's businesses are benefiting from exporting clean technologies. For example, in 2019, [electric vehicles were the state's 2<sup>nd</sup> most valuable export, worth over \\$7 billion in revenue](#), and those exports are poised to grow with California's adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule.

As business leaders employing Californians throughout the state, our members also understand the economic importance of a healthy workforce and customer base. As our healthcare system strains in response to COVID-19, CARB standards that improve public health are essential. Poor air quality means higher rates of asthma and other severe respiratory diseases, as well as a higher risk of hospitalization, emergency room visits, and premature death. The public health impacts that CARB regulations mitigate can decrease productivity, increase missed workdays, and lower economic output.

E2 fully recognizes the magnitude of the COVID-19 crisis that threatens not only the health of Californians but also our economy. By the end of March 2020, America's clean energy workers were significantly impacted, as the [industry shed an estimated 106,400, including almost 20,000 in California alone](#). In this challenging time, there is a renewed urgency for essential science- and health-based standards if we are to emerge from this crisis a more resilient society that protects the public welfare and grows jobs. Rolling back existing regulations or delaying current rulemakings will exacerbate existing economic impacts to California's clean energy industries, prevent the state from capturing longer-term job growth and investment, and miss the opportunity to position California's clean technology industries to drive the state's economic recovery.

Sincerely,



Andy Wunder  
E2 Western States Advocate