



September 18, 2019

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
1990 E Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
(email: AB617@valleyair.org)

Re: Second-Round Community Nominations - Port of Stockton and Surrounding Neighborhoods

Dear Valley Air District Representative:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a nomination for the second-round AB617 Community Air Protection Program (CAPP). We commend the Valley Air District on working collaboratively with San Joaquin Valley stakeholders, residents, businesses, environmental advocates, and community groups to further advance the goals of the AB617 Community Air Protection Program. In Stockton alone, the Valley Air District has had an ongoing presence at local events and most recently, was a supportive partner with the city's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Planning grant as well as a stakeholder in the California Environmental Protection Agency's (CalEPA) Stockton Environmental Justice Task-force.

As local community partners within the City of Stockton, we want to express our strong support and nomination for the Port of Stockton and surrounding neighborhoods in the second round of the AB617 Community Air Protection Program. We are seeking both the deployment of a community air monitoring campaign and the development of a community emissions reduction program for the neighborhoods. We are committed to promoting resident participation and to support community capacity building.

The Port of Stockton is located southwest of downtown Stockton. This community's census tract is bordered by Interstate--5 (I--5) to the east, the San Joaquin River to the north and west, and West 8th Street to the south. The Port, according to CalEnviroScreen, has a population of approximately 6,692 with a 100% Pollution Burden percentile and a 96 to 100% Population Characteristics percentile. There is one elementary school four blocks from Best Logistics, Inc., and there are two elementary schools just below the census tract, and a high school just outside the census tract on the other side of I--5. The Port is a major source of commerce and industry, consisting of railroads, the seaport, factories, and warehouses, with homes and neighborhoods to the east, north, and south. The Port census tract has a population of 6,692 with a pollution burden percentile of 100%, according to CalEnviroScreen 3.0. The PM 2.5 and diesel amount to 84% and 74% and has a higher than 96 percentile for asthma and cardiovascular rates. The Port also has a high percentile burden for education, poverty, and housing burden. The

population is largely Hispanic at 57%, followed by Asian--American at 21%, African--American at 13% and White at 6%. The tract contains 19% children under age 10.

The City of Stockton has built trust and momentum among residents and established effective relationships among city government and community partners. The partnerships and collaboration strengthened by the TCC Planning grant that Stockton was awarded last year, will be leveraged and sustained through the AB617 CAPP. We wholeheartedly support the nomination for the Port of Stockton and surrounding neighborhoods in the second round of the AB617 Community Air Protection Program.

Sincerely,



Elvira Ramirez
Executive Director
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton



Jasmine Leek
Managing Director
Third City Coalition



Darren Kumar
Senior Regional Manager
Rising Sun Center for Opportunity



Marty Martinez, MPP
Northern California Policy Manager
Safe Routes Partnership