

Good morning, Chair and Members of the Board.

My name is Laila Sharpe, I am a UC Davis Political Science major and I am a clean air and water intern speaking on behalf of Environment California.

California's landfills are the largest sources of methane emissions in the state, accounting for approximately 41% of the total. Methane is one of the most powerful greenhouse gases, and is a major contributor to the acceleration of climate change. And when it is released into landfills, it carries other harmful pollutants that degrade air quality and harm California's environment.

Environment California supports the proposed amendments to strengthen methane monitoring, shorten repair timelines, and require the use of better leak detection tools, such as drones and laser scanners. These updates move California toward cleaner air, stronger enforcement, and more transparency.

We especially support the improvements that will reduce emissions during gas system downtime and require earlier action when new waste is placed. These steps are essential to prevent avoidable methane leaks, protect surrounding ecosystems, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We encourage CARB to make landfill emissions data publicly accessible in real time. Transparent monitoring will help ensure that leaks are detected quickly, so action can be taken before emissions spread and cause environmental harm.

My generation fears for our future and the future of our planet. We deserve to have clean air, healthy lands, and climate policies that actually reduce emissions.

At a time when climate change is accelerating, California must continue to lead. Stronger landfill methane standards are an innovative, science-based approach to reducing greenhouse gases, protecting public health, and helping the state achieve its climate goals.

We urge CARB to adopt these amendments and ensure local air districts have the resources to enforce them. Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to provide my comments.