

Kern County Oilfield Workers (Kenny Ruiz)

To the California Air Resources Board,

We are the oilfield workers of Kern County — the men and women who wake up before sunrise, work long hours in the heat and cold, and take pride in producing the energy that keeps California moving.

For generations, our families have helped power this state. The fuel we produce helps farmers harvest crops, truck drivers deliver food, parents get to work, and businesses keep their doors open. These are not just jobs to us — they are livelihoods that support our families, our communities, and our future.

Today we are deeply concerned about new regulations being considered that could drive gas prices even higher while putting thousands of California energy jobs at risk.

When fuel prices go up, everything goes up. Groceries go up. Transportation costs go up. Small businesses struggle. Working families across California feel it immediately. And here in Kern County, where so many families depend on the oil and gas industry, the impact is even more personal.

California already has some of the strictest environmental standards in the world. Our workers take that responsibility seriously. We believe in protecting the environment because we live here too — our kids breathe the same air and our families drink the same water.

But policies that push energy production out of California won't reduce demand. They will only force our state to import more oil from foreign countries and other states with weaker environmental protections. That doesn't help the planet — and it certainly doesn't help California workers.

We are proud of the work we do. We are proud to power California.

All we ask is that our voices — the voices of the workers and families who depend on this industry — are heard before decisions are made that could hurt our livelihoods and make life even more expensive for Californians.

Please consider the real people behind this industry.

Respectfully,
Kern County Oilfield Workers