

Robert Caddell

Dear California Air Resources Board Members,

As a Mount Shasta resident, I urge you to reject or substantially revise the proposed amendments to the Cap-and-Invest program, particularly the removal of 118 million allowances (2027–2030) and accelerated reductions toward a 2045 cap of ~30 million allowances.

These changes threaten to make in-state refining unviable, as warned by Chevron and others. With recent closures (e.g., Valero Benicia, Phillips 66 LA) already reducing capacity by ~20% and pushing prices up (e.g., surges of 40+ cents recently to ~\$4.58/gal), further refinery losses could spike gasoline well beyond current levels—potentially toward \$8/gal by late 2026 per some analyses—while forcing even greater reliance on higher-emission foreign imports.

This would hit working families hardest, exacerbate inflation, and accelerate California's ongoing exodus: recent data show net domestic out-migration of over 200,000 residents annually (e.g., ~229,000 in mid-2025 Census estimates, with California leading the nation in outbound moves for years). High energy costs are a key driver pushing people to lower-cost states.

CARB is appointed to represent all Californians—not just climate goals at the expense of affordability, energy security, jobs, and population stability. Please prioritize balanced solutions: fairer refinery benchmarks, phased implementation, and a full economic/security impact review with the Energy Commission.

Thank you for considering this input before the March 9 comment deadline. I request confirmation of receipt.

Sincerely, Bob and Cathy Caddell Mount Shasta, CA lleddac@gmail.com