

Aiden Zhang

When I first heard about this, I thought it was a joke. It is an absolute betrayal of the public trust and a massive kneecapping of California's cap-and-invest program. I am writing to express my profound outrage and to demand that CARB REJECT the proposed amendments in their entirety and completely OPPOSE the establishment of the Manufacturing Decarbonization Incentives (MDI) program.

The mechanism of cap-and-invest is simple. Hold polluters accountable by dwindling their allowances year over year, and use the revenue to invest in our communities. Instead, this amendment proposes to strip \$1.4 billion from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). This is money that was originally intended for transit, affordable housing, and clean air initiatives, and it is being handed directly to the state's heaviest polluters through the MDI program. Cutting funds directly targets seniors, youth, and people with disabilities by threatening free and reduced fares. It kills new, reliable transit services and halts the transition to electric buses. Affordable housing and public transit are our most effective, long-term community investments for reducing greenhouse gases. Stripping \$1.4 billion from these programs ensures we will never meet CARB's own mandate of reducing emissions.

The 100 biggest oil and gas companies have collectively raked in historic, unfathomable profits in recent years. The fact that California's air quality regulators are considering eliminating critical funding for clean air and transit just to provide a massive subsidy to Big Oil is disgusting.

reject the proposed amendment to save California!!