

Sonoma County climate Activist network or SoCoCan! (christine Hoex)

Dear members of the California Air Resources Board,

I am posting these comments for a net work of Climate activist in Sonoma County. We follow and support campaigns that support an honest transition to clean renewable energy with special attention to climate justice. The cap and invest program is supposed to give this difficult transition, but it has gone astray. Biofuel is not a clean energy solution.

Cap and Invest and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) funneled nearly \$28 billion to oil companies and biofuel suppliers from 2013 to 2024, according to a new report from The Climate Center (<https://theclimatecenter.org/fossil-fuels/clearing-the-zero-emission-path/>). These two programs, often referred to as the state's "signature" climate programs, are designed to make carbon emitters pay for their pollution. Instead, key design choices have created billions of dollars in subsidies for oil and gas companies to take advantage of. The combined value of free Cap and Invest allowances given to oil refiners and drillers and LCFS credits awarded to oil companies and other biofuel suppliers totaled roughly \$27.8 billion. The flaws in these programs incentivized continued reliance on combustion fuels, delaying the necessary transition to zero-emission vehicles and public transit. Climate policies that subsidize and fund combustion fuels are not smart climate policies. Over the same time period, \$27.8 billion could have instead funded the installation of 2.8 million level-two EV chargers to serve roughly 11 million Californians, free public transit statewide for 12 years with \$11 billion left for service improvements and transit electrification, or complete job transition support for California's oil workers, with some \$15 billion left over. I urge you to take the following steps to reform these carbon trading programs: - Stop issuing free Cap and Invest allowances to oil refiners and drillers; - Rapidly phase out issuing LCFS credits to producers and suppliers of combustion fuels that compete with the electrification of transportation. It's time to reorient California's climate policy to prioritize the state's decarbonization goals. Thank you for your leadership and service to California's climate future.

Sincerely

Sonoma County Climate Activist Network