

## Wilmington Chamber of Commerce (Monica Garcia Diaz)

Wilmington sits at the center of a major industrial corridor serving the San Pedro Bay ports. Refining, logistics, maritime services, and goods movement operations provide stable jobs and economic opportunity for local residents. Policies that significantly increase regulatory costs for these industries place that economic base at risk.

Recent refinery closures and conversions have already reduced California's in state refining capacity. If remaining facilities face rising compliance costs under the proposed amendments, additional capacity losses remain possible. That outcome would increase dependence on imported refined products and expose California to greater supply volatility.

The Chamber remains concerned about the regulatory imbalance between in state refiners and imported fuels entering the California market. Addressing this imbalance remains essential to protecting local jobs, fuel supply reliability, and the long term stability of Wilmington's industrial economy.



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March 7, 2026

Honorable Lauren Sanchez, Chair  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to the Cap on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Market-Based Compliance Mechanisms Regulation**

Dear Chair Sanchez:

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce represents a community whose economy is closely tied to the industrial infrastructure surrounding the San Pedro Bay port complex.

Energy facilities, logistics operations, and manufacturing companies located in the harbor region provide thousands of stable middle-income jobs for local residents.

The proposed Cap and Invest amendments raise significant concerns about the long-term stability of these industries.

The rule would accelerate allowance reductions beginning in 2027 and remove roughly 118 million allowances from the system through 2030. As allowance availability declines, regulated industrial facilities will face rising compliance costs associated with purchasing emissions allowances.

When regulatory costs increase faster than businesses can adapt, companies face pressure to reduce operations or relocate production outside the state.

This outcome does not reduce global emissions. Instead, it shifts production to jurisdictions with weaker environmental standards while eliminating stable jobs in communities like Wilmington.

California has already experienced several refinery closures and conversions in recent years. Continued policies that increase compliance costs for domestic energy production risk accelerating this trend and weakening the industrial base that supports thousands of working families.

The Wilmington Chamber urges CARB to revise the proposed amendments and address the structural imbalance that places in-state refiners at a disadvantage compared with imported fuels.

Climate policy should strengthen California's economy while reducing emissions. Policies that eliminate domestic production while increasing reliance on imported fuels move the state in the opposite direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monica Garcia-Diaz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent flourish at the end.

**Monica Garcia-Diaz**

President and CEO

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce