

## Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce (Donna Duperron )

Attached is the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce's official position. Thank you for your consideration.

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3/5/2026

California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA, 95814

Dear Governor Newsom, Chair Sanchez, and Members of the California Air Resource Board,

On behalf on the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, we urge your administration to protect the South Bay’s industrial cluster from the unintended consequences of the Cap-and-Invest amendments. The South Bay is home to some of the most sophisticated refining and manufacturing facilities in the world—facilities that are currently under threat.

In our region—spanning from El Segundo to Torrance and Carson—the energy industry is more than just a provider of fuel; it is a provider of the "Middle Class." These facilities support over **530,000 jobs statewide**, many of which are high-wage, union positions held by our residents. The proposed tightening of the cap, as outlined in the January 2026 draft, risks driving our remaining in-state capacity to zero. We have already seen the impact of refinery closures in California; further losses would be catastrophic for the South Bay’s tax base and the dense network of small business contractors that support these plants.

Under AB 1207, CARB must evaluate "leakage risk." We contend that for the South Bay, the risk is at an all-time high. When a refinery in the South Bay closes, we do not see a reduction in fuel demand; we see a five-fold increase in fuel imports coming through our ports from regions with higher carbon intensities. We urge you to maintain robust free allowance allocations for our energy-intensive industries to ensure the South Bay remains a leader in both climate policy and industrial strength.

Sincerely,

Donna Duperron  
President & CEO  
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

William Brandt  
Government Affairs Coordinator  
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

