

# Association of California Cities - Orange County (Kristine Murray)

TO: California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
5/28/2026

RE: Proposed Amendments to the California Cap on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Market- Based Compliance Mechanisms Regulation

Dear Chair Sanchez and Members of the Board,

My name is Kristine Murray, and I serve as Executive Director of the Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC).

ACC-OC represents the regional policy interests of Orange County cities and special districts, serving a population of up to 3.2 million residents. As an organization that has long championed responsible environmental stewardship and sustainable energy policy, I want to express our support for CARB's proposed rulemaking and respectfully urge the Board to approve it.

This program is critically important for electric affordability at a time when Californians are facing growing cost pressures across nearly every aspect of daily life. The proposal before you delivers meaningful benefits to electric customers while maintaining California's commitment to environmental progress and clean air goals.

We appreciate the thoughtful and balanced approach CARB staff have taken in developing this proposal. It recognizes that affordability and sustainability must go hand in hand. Policies are strongest and most durable when they both advance environmental objectives and remain workable for families, local governments, and businesses.

From an economic development perspective, this proposal also helps provide greater cost stability for employers and small businesses already managing rising operating expenses. Helping keep electricity bills manageable supports job retention and overall economic competitiveness throughout California communities.

For local governments, affordability matters deeply because rising utility costs directly affect our residents—especially seniors, working families, and vulnerable households who are already struggling with higher energy use during hotter months.

This isn't just about policy—it's about keeping energy reliable and affordable while continuing to make progress on clean air. That balance matters because it affects our families, local economies, and regional communities.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.



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Sincerely,

Kris Murray  
Executive Director  
Association of California Cities – Orange County