

Renna Hickey

Dear CARB Staff and Board Members,

Californians are feeling the real impacts of climate disasters that are not just devastating our communities and lands but also driving an affordability crisis. Families are bearing the costs of a warming climate through insurance premiums and utility bills, health expenses and hospital bills, higher prices on household goods, and are held hostage by Big Oil's price gouging at the pump. Cap-and-Invest is one of our state's biggest climate programs and is a critical source of funding for close to home community investments like transit, parks, clean cars, charging infrastructure, electrifying homes, and critical disaster response. The April proposal amending the program will slow our climate progress and gut the annual program revenue \$2 billion a year at a time when our state is cutting safety net services across the board for Californians. CARB must immediately amend the proposal to ensure that the Cap-and-Invest program will benefit Californians, not provide polluters with excessive handouts.

At a time when California's leadership can provide a backstop against federal attacks and rising costs that are burdening families, we cannot afford to give corporate polluters more handouts. Now is the time for the agency to put Californians first and ensure that industry giveaways are not being adopted into one of our most significant and cost-effective climate programs. California must move with a proposal that defends the integrity of Cap-and-Invest and safeguards our state against the climate crisis.

Thank you as a student, a recreationalist, and GenZ person fighting for our healthy future that is harder to see due to changes like these.