

# William Davis

Subject: Public Comment Opposing Proposed Amendments to the California Cap on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Market-Based Compliance Mechanisms Regulation

Dear Chair Liane Randolph and Members of the California Air Resources Board,

My name is Bill Davis, a resident and software engineer in San Jose, California. I oppose the proposed amendments to the Cap-and-Invest Regulation (ISOR January 2026) because they would substantially increase the cost of fuel, electricity, and goods for working families without adequate protections.

Tightening the emissions cap and reducing free allowances will drive up compliance costs for refineries, utilities, and transportation, inevitably passed to consumers through higher gas prices (already over \$5/gallon in the Bay Area), elevated electricity bills, and pricier groceries and manufacturing. These regressive impacts hit low- and middle-income households hardest, exacerbating California's affordability crisis amid stagnant wages and high living costs. CARB's own analysis shows potential annual household cost increases of several hundred dollars without stronger rebates or exemptions.

I urge the Board to:

Retain sufficient free allowances to shield ratepayers from price shocks.

Expand direct rebates to all households, not just low-income, funded by 100% of auction proceeds.

Delay cap tightening until zero-emission alternatives scale affordably and grid reliability is proven.

Prioritize voluntary measures over mandatory caps that risk economic harm.

Rejecting these amendments protects California families from unaffordable energy costs while pursuing climate goals through innovation, not mandates. Thank you for considering my comment.

The costs of this amendment will encourage more people and businesses to leave the state of California.

Sincerely,  
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