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KERN MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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April 14, 2026

Clerk of the Board
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Advanced Clean Fleets 15-Day Comment Period Response

Chair Lauren Sanchez and the Members of the California Air Resources Board:

We greatly appreciate the time and effort that has gone into the 15-day comment draft that has been published for public comment. While the goals of these regulations are laudable, the reality remains that we cannot safely serve our communities unless emergency support vehicles are exempted.

At the Kern Mosquito and Vector Control District (District), we serve a community spanning 1,657 square miles, encompassing the cities of Arvin, Bakersfield, Shafter, and Wasco, as well as the communities of Buttonwillow and Lamont. Our community relies on the District for mosquito and mosquito-borne disease suppression. During emergencies, our vehicles must travel an estimated 20 miles to reach a single location within the service area. Depending on the nature and scope of the disease outbreak, vehicles may collectively travel in excess of 100 miles from multiple deployment points across the District.

Operationally, District vehicles are routinely in service for periods of up to seven hours at a time and must perform reliably under a wide range of weather conditions while supporting mosquito control activities. Additionally, certain vehicles are specifically designated and modified to transport specialized or large-scale mosquito treatment equipment essential to the District's response efforts.

To prevent unnecessary loss of life and property in the communities we serve, please reconsider the amendments respectfully requested in the October 7th letter submitted by the California Special Districts Association, League of California Cities, and California State Association of Counties, collectively representing our state's 5,000 local agencies and 40 million residents.

Local agencies like ours continue to do our part in achieving the State's climate and emissions goals. Our proposed amendments will enable us to better meet this challenge and effectively navigate the current Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) mandates and their associated ambitious compliance deadlines. Of critical concern to our community, the ACF mandates on local agencies are creating unnecessary challenges in complying while maintaining the many critical services Californians rely upon for their most essential daily needs, as well as during emergencies and disasters.

Vehicles that need to be categorically exempted from the regulations the same manner as those found in **part (c) of § 2013 of title 13 of the California code of regulations** to include those vehicles that respond to, assist in and recover from disasters and emergencies to include: water utility vehicles, flood protection vehicles, sewer utility vehicles, electric utility vehicles, fire prevention vehicles, fire protection vehicles, search and rescue vehicles, and disease and vector control vehicles.

We respectfully request that you amend the ACF exemptions to allow our vehicles that support emergency services to continue serving our communities when we need them most.

Thank you for your consideration,



La Thao
General Manager