



Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District

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Matthew C. Ball
Manager

April 7, 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.

Here at Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District (District), the District serves to protect the public's health and safety from mosquito and vector borne diseases. The District provides surveillance and control to mosquitoes capable of transmitting including but not limited to West Nile virus, malaria, dengue fever, and Zika virus. The District's charge is to protect a population of over 225,000 residents that spans over 1800 square miles from those diseases. The District is the last in the state that utilizes its own aircraft and pilots. With that, the District has two specially engineered and constructed nurse trucks designed to service, refuel, and load the District's aircraft. West Nile virus has been present in Butte County since its arrival in 2004, severely impacting 302 Butte County residents, while taking the lives of 12. Without the District's aircraft and associated nurse trucks, these numbers would be much higher.

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 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Ball".

Matthew C. Ball
District Manager