

NEWS RELEASE

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Bay Area Air District testifies at EPA hearing on roll back of vehicle emissions standards

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District, along with other top California policymakers, testified today in strong opposition to the US Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule to roll back existing vehicle standards.

The proposal would overturn current greenhouse gas emission standards for model year 2021-2026 vehicles and put in place weakened emission and fuel efficiency standards. Representatives from four state agencies involved in climate and public health policy, including the Bay Area Air District, spoke at the hearing.

Statement by Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District:

"Withdrawal of the waiver would throw the Air District, California, other states and the auto industry into limbo. The EPA must consider the far-reaching implications of withdrawal and must ultimately decide against this action. It is clear this change would increase consumption of fossil fuels, which translates to additional criteria and climate pollutants being pumped into our communities and atmosphere. The Air District strongly opposes the proposed rule. It would obstruct our agency and our mission. Climate change is an existential threat to our way of life. While we know it is a global concern, every action counts. Inaction threatens public health. We support the State of California and will do everything in our power to resist the rollback and withdrawal."

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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