



AB 32 Implementation Group



Working Toward Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions
And Enhancing California's Competitiveness

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 22, 2007

COALITION PROPOSES GREENHOUSE GAS CUTS QUICKER THAN REQUIRED

SACRAMENTO – A new coalition representing thousands of California businesses testified today at an Air Resources Board workshop that regulatory uncertainty resulting from the implementation of AB 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act) threatens to delay investments, reduce jobs and in some cases threaten projects that could cut greenhouse gas emissions sooner than required under the law.

“While AB 32 regulations may take years to develop, California businesses need to make decisions in real time whether to go forward, delay or abandon future projects,” said Dorothy Rothrock, vice president of government relations for the California Manufacturers & Technology Association and member of the AB 32 Implementation Group.

To solve this problem, the coalition urged the Air Resources Board to adopt a Certified Early Action Program that provides greater regulatory certainty and encourages companies to continue investing in California.

“A Certified Early Action Program for AB 32 would not only provide the certainty businesses need to invest here in California, it could actually encourage companies to invest in energy efficiency and other projects earlier than required which would speed up greenhouse gas emission reductions,” said Dominic DiMare, vice president of government affairs for the California Chamber of Commerce.

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The Certified Early Action Program also recommends that the Air Resource Board require businesses to quantify and evaluate their operations to show that emission levels associated with prospective operations will be appropriate to meet their business needs. In addition, businesses would be required to demonstrate how their projects would help meet the state's goal to reduce greenhouse gases while not harming economic growth.

“Providing expedited regulatory certainty may be the most cost-effective approach to achieve early emissions reductions,” said Rothrock. “These types of programs have been very successful in the past at helping the state achieve other pollution prevention goals, because flexibility and incentives permit each company to determine how it can best achieve the goal.”

The coalition is lead by the California Chamber of Commerce and the California Manufacturers & Technology Association. Its membership includes the American Chemistry Council, Ass'n of Home Appliance Manufacturers, California Ass'n for Local Economic Development, California Building Industry Ass'n, California Business Roundtable, California Construction & Industrial Materials Ass'n, California Forestry Ass'n, California Grocers Ass'n, California Independent Petroleum Ass'n, California League of Food Processors, California Metals Coalition, Center for Energy & Economic Development, Chemical Industry Council of California, Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition, Dairy Institute of California, Industrial Environmental Ass'n, Western States Petroleum Ass'n and the Wine Institute.