



August 29, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O St., Room 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Toni Atkins
Senate President pro Tempore
1021 O St., Room 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Clean Air Investments in a Climate Resilience Bond

Dear Governor Newsom, President pro Tempore Atkins, and Speaker Rivas:

Strengthening climate resilience and achieving California's 2045 carbon neutrality goal equitably will require sufficient funding to support projects and investments that will significantly and swiftly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, further develop clean energy infrastructure, reduce fossil fuel consumption, and improve air quality. It is particularly critical that investments center around the communities that have been historically excluded from state investments and borne the brunt of climate change impacts. **In support of the state's efforts to provide vital resources for climate change mitigation efforts, we, the undersigned organizations, write to express our support for passing a climate resilience bond by the end of the 2023 legislative session.**

In addition to mitigating wildfires, improving water quality, and protecting natural resources, a **climate resilience bond should prioritize investments in grid modernization, renewable**

energy, recycling infrastructure, zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, and building decarbonization for California to reduce greenhouse gasses and enhance the climate preparedness and resilience of our communities. We believe that equitable investment, prioritizing the most under-served communities, in the following categories will achieve these goals and ensure that the state is able to meet its ambitious carbon neutrality goals:

- Deploying zero-emission vehicle technologies and related infrastructure.
- Bolstering workforce training programs that support the deployment of zero-emission vehicle technologies and infrastructure while increasing the state's climate resilience.
- Developing the port infrastructure necessary to handle, manufacture and deploy offshore wind energy equipment and infrastructure.
- Supporting grid modernization, including the planning and development of new or expanded high-voltage electrical transmission lines that are necessary to meet the state's clean energy goals.
- Retrofitting zero-emission buildings, including the Equitable Building Decarbonization Program and replacing electric service panels in low-income, single and multi-family homes.
- Constructing organic waste recycling infrastructure to reduce methane emissions from landfills and achieve the state's climate pollution reduction targets.

We thank you for your work to champion an investment proposal centered around climate change action at this pivotal moment, and we hope you will consider the above framework and programs in need of investment when constructing a climate resilience bond. Our state and the climate cannot afford to delay these investments.

Sincerely,

Nick Lapis
Director of Advocacy
Californians Against Waste

Bill Magavern
Policy Director
Coalition for Clean Air

Orville Thomas
State Policy Director
CALSTART

Reed Addis
Governmental Affairs
Electric Vehicle Charging Association

Steve McShane
Board Chair
California Vanpool Authority

Katelyn Roedner Sutter
California State Director
Environmental Defense Fund

Victoria Rome
CA Government Affairs Director
Natural Resources Defense Council

Tom Knox
Executive Director
Valley Clean Air Now

Joe La Mariana
Executive Director
RethinkWaste