



523 W. 6th Street  
10th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Dear Fellow Californian,

Air pollution causes more deaths in our state than AIDS, murder, and car accidents combined!

It's true.

Air pollution is literally choking people to death.

During smog alerts, children, the elderly, and those with chronic diseases are particularly at risk.

Toxic particles, like soot, are deadly ingredients in today's air pollution. Their partner in crime, smog, has a suffocating effect on normal breathing patterns.

The result? An epidemic of asthma.

Thousands of preventable deaths. And statewide air quality that, increasingly, is unfit for human consumption. We must take steps to reverse this dangerous trend now.

That's why I'm writing today.

I urge you to join the Coalition for Clean Air and sign the enclosed Healthy Air Petition.

Together, with thousands of other Californians, we can—and will—make a difference in the air we breathe everyday.

The Los Angeles region and the San Joaquin Valley have the worst air pollution in the country, but the fact is it's not just the people who live there that suffer.

Air pollution affects everyone in California from Barstow to Bakersfield, San Diego to Sacramento, and Redding to Riverside. It doesn't care where you live.

The majestic and once pristine environment of Sequoia-King's Canyon now has the dubious distinction of being the country's smoggiest National Park.

Sequoia's air pollution is worse than New York City's!

(over please)

Meanwhile, as our cities are filling with soot and our national parks are choking in smog, Governor Schwarzenegger has gone silent on his promise to cut California's air pollution in half.

This was arguably the most significant piece of Governor Schwarzenegger's environmental platform, and his Administration has yet to produce a progress report or even a plan.

We must urge Governor Schwarzenegger to ignore special interests and big campaign donors and live up to his promises and start doing better for California.

You can be confident that the action you take today will make an impact. The Coalition for Clean Air has already won a major victory with Governor Schwarzenegger.

Along with our allies, the Coalition for Clean Air persuaded the Schwarzenegger Administration to dedicate \$140 million per year to put cleaner engines and better pollution controls on California diesel trucks and buses.

This victory is just one in our 30-year track record of success at cutting air pollution. The Coalition for Clean Air:

- Sponsored and helped pass our state's vehicle global warming law. California is one of the leading producers of global warming pollution on Earth. This landmark law makes our state a world leader in efforts to stop global warming.
- Won the first law in the nation to phase out perchloroethylene, the toxic dry-cleaning chemical. This reduces the risk of cancer for dry cleaner employees, neighbors, and customers.
- Secured millions in state funding to get clean, alternative-fuel school buses on the road.
- Helped convince California to adopt the toughest pollution standards in the nation for all cars including pickups and SUVs.

And when advocacy and negotiation don't produce the changes needed, the Coalition for Clean Air has and will continue to go to court to ensure polluters comply with the law.

We sued the Port of Los Angeles for violating the Clean Air Act and won! Now ships in port must plug-in to electric terminals instead of burning dirty diesel. Our action stopped thousands of tons of smog-forming toxic pollutants from fouling our air every year.

But we must do more.

(over please)

90% of Californians breathe dirty air. Asthma rates are already alarming throughout the state, especially for people living near our freeways and ports.

And guess what?

California ports are already one of the largest sources of pollution in the state, and the ports are projecting that the volume of cargo will triple by 2025. Governor Schwarzenegger, like many politicians, is just accepting these projections as reality without considering if this tripling is really good for California. Even worse, his Administration is downplaying the serious public health impacts of the ports and related cargo system

It may not sound that alarming on paper, but picture this.

More ships belching harmful pollution. More diesel trucks and trains moving all that cargo. More traffic. And more diesel exhaust spewing into our air and impacting the health of communities across the state.

But it doesn't have to be that way. Not if we all join together to act now.

The Coalition for Clean Air is working hard to pass a state law, the Clean Ports Bill, SB 764 as well as SB 760 which would ensure a dedicated stream of funding to reduce port pollution.

It says that ports can only expand if they do it with no net increase in pollution. Your Healthy Air Petition urges the governor to sign this important legislation.

The Coalition for Clean Air is also working for statewide requirements for stricter pollution controls on diesel trucks. And for a faster transition to cleaner and zero-emission alternative fuels.

California needs to clean up the air you breathe, not make it dirtier.

**Governor Schwarzenegger said he wants to cut air pollution.**

**Let's make him *make good* on his promises.**

**Please sign and return the enclosed petition and send a gift for clean air today!**

We cannot afford to sit back and hope things will get better, while thousands of Californians die. We must stand together and put a stop to these ill-conceived plans that will only fill our skies with dangerous levels of smog and fine toxic pollution.

(over please)

California is at a crossroads. Our state can be a global leader in curbing air pollution—or we can watch the air get dirtier.

The choice is in the hands of concerned Californians like you.

Please join the Coalition for Clean Air today.

Membership is just \$25, but clean air is priceless.

I invite you to consider joining with the gift of \$35, \$50 or more, or whatever you can afford. And please take a moment now to help make the air safer for you and other Californians by signing the enclosed petition.

As a member, you'll receive a subscription to our *Clearing the Air* newsletter. You will also receive special updates and opportunities to take action for cleaner air.

It's unconscionable that innocent children, the elderly, and the chronically ill die each year from the lethal effects of air pollution.

Together, we can clear the air throughout the state, and make California the nation's capital for healthy living once again.

Sincerely,



Tim Carmichael  
President

P.S. Air pollution is now the number one killer in the state—causing more deaths than AIDS, murder, and car accidents combined. Please take a minute right now to return your Healthy Air Petition—along with your membership gift to the Coalition for Clean Air. Your health, and the health of others, depends on it. Thank you.

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# My Membership Gift for Clean Air

**Yes, count me in.** I've signed my Healthy Air Petition. I'm urging the Governor to clean up California's air, not make it dirtier. And here's my membership gift to the Coalition for Clean Air:

\$25    \$35    \$50    \$100    \$ \_\_\_\_\_



523 W. 6th Street, 10th Floor  
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213-630-1192  
[www.coalitionforcleanair.org](http://www.coalitionforcleanair.org)

Ms. Jane Donor  
Mr. John Donor  
1234 Any Street  
Any Town, As 12345  
XXXXX

reply A

- Please see my credit card on reverse.  
 Please send e-mail updates to:

*Your contribution to the Coalition for Clean Air is fully tax-deductible. Thank you!*

RECYCLED & RECYCLABLE / SOY INK 5-PC3A

## Healthy Air Petition

### WHEREAS,

- Air pollution causes more deaths in our state than AIDS, murder, and car accidents combined.
- 90% of Californians breathe dirty air. Asthma rates are already alarming throughout the state, especially for people living near our freeways and ports.
- Uncontrolled port expansion means more ships belching harmful pollution. More diesel trucks and trains moving all that cargo. More traffic. And more diesel exhaust spewing into our air and threatening the health of communities across the state.
- Governor Schwarzenegger promised to cut California's air pollution in half by 2010.

### I THEREFORE URGE GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER TO:

- Make good on your promise—and get started cutting California air pollution in half by 2010.
- Stop expansion of California ports and freeways, unless it is done in a way that also lowers air pollution and protects the health of all Californians.
- Sign into law S.B. 764, the Clean Ports Bill.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name 1  
Name 2  
City, State



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*New member special—\$15*

Ms. Jane Donor  
Mr. John Donor  
1234 Any Street  
Any Town, As 12345  
XXXXX

reply B



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- Please see my credit card on reverse.  
 Please send e-mail updates to:

*Your contribution to the Coalition for Clean Air is fully tax-deductible. Thank you!*

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Name 1  
Name 2  
City, State



Please charge my credit card:

Visa     MasterCard     American Express

Gift amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Account# \_\_\_\_\_

3-Digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_