

5 February 2025

Chairman Doug Chaffee, Orange County Board of Supervisors 400 W Civic Center Drive Santa Ana, CA <u>Fourth.District@ocgov.com</u>

RE: Support for Appointment of Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento to South Coast AQMD

Dear Chairman Doug Chaffee,

We, the undersigned organizations and residents from across Orange County and the South Coast region, respectfully urge you to appoint Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento to represent Orange County on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Governing Board.

The AQMD has a critical responsibility to safeguard the public health of nearly 17 million residents in one of the nation's most polluted air basins. AQMD rules and regulations help save thousands of lives annually by ensuring compliance with state and federal air quality standards. Supervisor Sarmiento's leadership and deep understanding of the impacts of pollution on local communities make him the ideal candidate.

Raised in the Second District and a longtime resident of Orange County, Supervisor Sarmiento has spent his career helping families thrive. As a former Santa Ana councilmember, mayor, and now county supervisor, he has worked to improve public safety, expand healthcare access, reduce homelessness, and champion environmental justice. His collaborative and transparent leadership style makes him uniquely qualified to advocate for cleaner air and healthier communities.

Supervisor Sarmiento will bring the vision, dedication, and expertise needed to advance AQMD's mission and protect public health for millions of families. We respectfully request that you appoint him to the AQMD Governing Board.

Sincerely,

David Martinez Orange County Climate Equity Advocate and Organizer Climate Action Campaign

Evan Gillespie Partner Industrious Labs

Fernando Gaytan Senior Attorney Earthjustice

Amy Luna Capelle Executive Director Women for American Values and Ethics - WAVE

Kevin Li Hub Coordinator Sunrise Movement Orange County

Michael Rochmes Green Building Committee Chair Los Angeles Climate Reality Project Kimberly Orbe Senior Conservation Program Manager Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

Christopher Chavez Deputy Policy Director Coalition for Clean Air

Dave Rice President United Nations Association, Orange County

Susan Perlson Retired LCSW Indivisible CA 45

Vi Thuy Nguyen MD Co-Chair Southern California Public Health Advisory Council

Dennis Arp Citizens' Climate Lobby SoCal Tri-Counties Chapter

Nathan Taft Senior Campaigner SAFE Cities at Stand.earth

Juan Muñoz-Guevara Political Coordinator UNITE HERE Local 11

Susan Keefe Director, Southern California Beyond Plastics

Gina Santos North Orange County Action Pod Volunteer Leader Greenpeace Rusty Kennedy & Anita Varela

cc:

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