I stand with tens of thousands of Bay Area energy workers and their families in calling on the Bay Area Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to balance strong emissions rulemaking with today’s economic realities and our shared energy future.

BAAQMD is considering new emissions rules that could have severe impacts on refineries’ ability to deliver reliable energy to consumers. The costly proposed regulations, supported by an activist strategy that fails to acknowledge sound science and data, could additionally jeopardize valuable local jobs and tax revenue for programs all Bay Area residents have come to depend on.

Bay Area refineries will continue to deliver clean and accessible energy to millions of Californians. I urge the BAAQMD Board members to engage in an open dialogue with refineries and their workers on how best to meet emissions targets without placing valuable jobs and affordable, reliable energy at risk.

Background

According to a 2015 study conducted by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), Bay Area refineries generate 88,060 annual full-time jobs and more than $9 billion in labor income. All told, industry activity and investments add $18.85 billion to the Bay Area...
A sister LAEDC study found a vast swath of California’s economy was closely linked to refined petroleum products. In the case of a reduction in refined products - via natural disaster, regulation, legislation, or an unforeseen market disruption - major industry sector jobs would be at risk:

- 2.4 million jobs (11.1 percent of state total)
- $187 billion in labor income
- $306 billion in value added, accounting for 14.4 percent of the state GDP
- Manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture jobs would be most vulnerable