July 30, 2008

Board of Directors
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Re: Proposed Cumulative Impacts Resolution

The Ditching Dirty Diesel Collaborative (DDD) is writing in support of adoption of the Cumulative Impacts resolution before you. DDD is a coalition of over twenty grassroots organizations, environmental and health non-profit groups, labor unions, and agencies, that advocates for the reduction of diesel pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area, particularly in low-income communities of color. From its inception, DDD has recognized that environmental justice communities in the Bay Area are overburdened with multiple sources of pollution and that addressing diesel pollution is just one part of the problem. Without addressing the reality of local communities and the environmental impacts residents must live with we will never achieve clean air nor address climate change.

We believe this resolution is a good first step towards developing realistic and enforceable measures that can address the problem of the disproportionate impacts suffered by fenceline communities in the Bay Area. By considering cumulative criteria the Air District can prevent worsening of conditions and reduce pollution in the most highly impacted and vulnerable areas.

DDD focuses on both mobile and stationary sources of diesel pollution, such as distribution centers which are magnets for vehicles and equipment. Developing policy and regulations that address the impacts created by all sources will achieve the public health goal of the Air District.

We urge the Board to adopt the Cumulative Impacts Resolution and monitor the successful implementation of the policy.

Very truly yours,

DDD Steering Committee