



Climate Protection Campaign Comments on AB32 - Media Summary December 11, 2008

- The California Air Resources Board's AB32 Scoping Plan provides an opportunity to "green" our energy and transportation infrastructure and meet our State's emission reduction goals.
- By instituting carbon fees, and auctioning permits representing greenhouse gas emissions under the cap, the State can raise billions of dollars. The State should not divert those funds to fill any budget gaps.
- We encourage CARB to consider **Cap and Dividend**: Returning auction revenues to consumers as a dividend that will help Californians afford new green electricity and low-carbon fuels in this difficult economic time.
- According to studies by the Congressional Budget Office, U-Mass. Amherst, as well as the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative, dividends show great promise to offset the **regressive economic impacts** borne by low and middle income families if energy prices rise.
- These climate dividends can be part of a Clean Energy Economy, which includes green jobs programs and reorienting federal subsidies from fossil fuels to clean technologies. Dividends are the centerpiece to shore up popular support for the emission cap.
- The State can reduce emissions and put money in people's pockets, and set an example for the federal action on climate change. We hope Cap and Dividend will be part of that example, as the AB32 process moves forward.

For more information, contact Mike Sandler at 707-529-4620 or mike@climateprotectioncampaign.org or Rafael Aguilera at 916-752-2929 or rafael@theverdegroupp.org .

More information on Cap and Dividend is available at www.capanddividend.org.