**From:** mikestoker@aol.com

**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 9:56 AM

To: Lore Saldana
Cc: Mike Stoker

**Subject:** Please provide the legal basis for APCD to control mobile sources of trucks and marine

vessels related to VSFB commercial space operations.



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"The SBCTAC...Fighting for the Taxpayer and Helping our Business Members Succeed!"

Dear Director Genet,

My name is Mike Stoker. I am the President & CEO of the recently formed 501C4, Santa Barbara County Taxpayer Advocacy Center (SBCTAC). We are a grassroots organization dedicated to improving Santa Barbara County residents' quality of life, growing our local economy, and keeping our community safe.

Recently, Andy Caldwell, on behalf of the Coalition of Labor, Agriculture & Business (COLAB), wrote about regulatory actions that he alleged the APCD has taken regarding commercial space contractors and/or operators doing business at Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB). Specifically, he alleged that the APCD has been regulating mobile sources of trucks and marine vessels.

It is my understanding the you intend to respond to those allegations at this Thursday's APCD meeting in your Director's Report.

For background purposes, I served on the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors from 1986-1994. During that time period, I also served on the APCD and have served as Chairman of the APCD. I was on the board when we transitioned, pursuant to state law, from being a board only served by County Supervisors to a board made up of County Supervisors and a representative of every city in located in the

county. I also served on the APCD when the county went from being in non-attainment to being in attainment in the early 90s which we have stayed in attainment ever since. I also served as the Southwest Administrator of the US EPA from 2017-2020.

As you are well aware, the District's jurisdiction is over stationary sources located in SB County. The District has very little, if any, jurisdiction over mobile sources that move through SB County. Mr. Caldwell has alleged that some operators and/or contractors have conditions placed on them by the APCD Authority to Construct or other permits that regulate the number of truck trips or marine vessel trips the operators and/or contractors are allowed to have on an annual basis to be in compliance with the APCD permit requirements.

I think it is in the best interest of the APCD, the regulated community, and the public at large if you could explain in your Director's Report whether any contractors and/or operators involved in commercial space activities at VSFB have any conditions in their permits that limit the number of truck trips or marine vessels that can take place as required by any permits that operator and/or contractor has with the APCD or the County of Santa Barbara.

If your answer is 'yes,' it would be very helpful if you or APCD counsel could explain what legal basis the APCD is asserting that authority. Is it based on directives of the CA Air Resources Board (ARB) or a published Court of Appeal or CA Supreme Court decision? If so, please provide the specific case citation or the specific directive by the ARB.

Our organization looks forward to working in a proactive way with you and your board in the months and years to come. Since SB County has been in attainment with federal clean air standards for over 30 years we believe the APCD should only impose conditions on companies doing business in SB County that the APCD has a statutory duty to impose. In other words, the SBCTAC will strive to assure that SB County is just as business-friendly of a county as our neighbors to the south and north in Ventura, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey counties.

I look forward to hearing your report on Thursday. Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important matter.

Best regards, Mike Stoker President & CEO, SBCTAC