

Oral Comments of Emily Thompson, Manager of Nationwide Policy for Clean Air at the
American Lung Association to Bay Area Air District on Rules 9-4 and 9-6

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Hello, my name is Emily Thompson, Manager of Nationwide Policy for Clean Air at the American Lung Association. The American Lung Association is the nation's oldest voluntary health organization, representing more than 34 million people in the United States living with lung disease. The Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through research, education and advocacy.

We strongly support Rules 9-4 and 9-6 and urge you to implement these lifesaving standards without delay.

Air pollution in the Bay Area continues to harm health. The Lung Association's 2026 "State of the Air Report" finds that despite significant progress, the San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland metropolitan area remains impacted by ozone and particle pollution – pollutants that damage lungs, trigger asthma attacks, increase the risk of heart disease and lead to premature death. These harms are especially severe for children, older adults and people with pre-existing health conditions.

Reducing pollution from buildings is a critical step forward in the progress needed in the region. These rules are projected to prevent approximately 85 premature deaths and 15,000 asthma attacks annually for Bay Area families. The rules will also avoid almost \$900 million per year in health-related costs.

Every year of delay means more children struggling to breathe and more preventable illness in our communities. We urge you to move forward with implementation on schedule to deliver these urgently needed health protections.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to protecting clean air and healthy lungs.