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February 8, 2021

Mayor Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Chair  
City Selection Committee  
Via email: [Grace.Andoh@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Grace.Andoh@sdcounty.ca.gov)

**RE: APCD Board Member Appointments**

Dear Mayor Sotelo-Solis:

Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) was very pleased to sponsor AB 423, authored by then-Assemblymember Todd Gloria. We were grateful for the California Legislature and Governor Newsom's support to bring long overdue reform to the San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD). AB 423 rectified a 25-year exemption that allowed San Diego to languish behind the other large regions in the state. AB 423 ensures that San Diego will have a board with diverse representation from every city to address the most urgent air pollution needs.

San Diego has a serious air pollution problem. Air monitors in some areas indicate a human cancer risk of over 300 per million, not including diesel particulate matter, the number one cancer causing pollutant in outdoor air. For children living in the most impacted communities asthma emergency room visits are up to five times higher than other areas in San Diego County.

This level of air pollution and health hazards are unacceptable and a new SDAPCD Board has the opportunity to take action to reduce pollution, improve human health and fight climate change by controlling emissions, regulating facilities, and researching new technologies that will bring districts into attainment with air quality and climate goals.

Given these risks and the immense health consequences posed by unhealthy air quality, EHC is very pleased to support the candidacy of the following elected officials to serve on the Board:

- District 1 -- Councilmember Marcus Bush, City of National City
- District 2 – Councilmember Jack Shu, City of La Mesa
- District 3 – Councilmember Consuelo Martinez, City of Escondido
- District 4 – Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera, City of San Diego
- District 5 – Mayor Esther Sanchez, City of Oceanside

We need a massive shift in the way we fight air pollution in San Diego. We can do so much more and we are grateful to these dedicated public officials who will provide the vision and resources to improve air quality for all San Diegans.

Sincerely,

Diane Takvorian  
Executive Director

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