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EAST BAY ALLIANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Making the Economy Work for Working People

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**Industry Polluters' Attack on Successful LA Program
Jeopardizes Clean-Air Efforts in Oakland**

**Statement by Nikki Bas, Executive Director, East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy
on the One-Year Anniversary of the Los Angeles Clean Truck Program**

“Congratulations to Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, environmentalists, port truck drivers and residents for leading the way to green growth at our nation’s ports. Nearly 6,000 clean trucks put into service, and 2,000 dirty trucks off the roads in the blink of an eye. It’s simply awe-inspiring.

“The LA Clean Truck Program serves as a model for many Bay Area stakeholders who worked tirelessly for three years to create a comprehensive and sustainable truck management plan at the Port of Oakland. Officials here commissioned Beacon Economics, LLC to conduct an independent Economic Impact Analysis which also concluded an asset-based port trucking system like that of Los Angeles is necessary to meet and sustain upcoming air quality regulations and address critical inefficiencies to improve safety and security.

“California’s port officials must be able to finish the job they set out to do. Oakland’s port clean-up efforts to get roughly 2,300 polluting rigs off the roads came to a grinding halt when the “profits before people” mindset of the American Trucking Association obstructed LA’s continued emissions-reduction progress in court. The Clean Truck Program is legally sound but this devastating development has put the Port of Oakland’s plans on hold.

“In the meantime, the cost to our health and our pocketbooks skyrocket because the industry refuses to take responsibility for cleaning up its dirty air. A recent study we conducted with the Pacific Institute shows that Oakland port truck pollution strains the public health system and sticks taxpayers, residents and workers with a \$153 million annual price tag to cover the cost of premature death, asthma, increased cancer risk, and other illnesses.

“West Oakland residents will continue to gasp for clean air that’s being held hostage by a heartless, greedy industry. Asthma strikes one in every five children in the communities closest to the port and is a life-long disease. We must prevent any more children from being exposed to dirty, diesel exhaust. But we do not want the burden of paying for clean trucks to be on the backs of low-wage drivers. The industry must pay the true cost of doing business.

“That’s why the East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy stands with port truck drivers and over 100 environmental, public health, community, labor and faith organizations in strongly endorsing the effort to modernize federal trucking laws to remove any doubt that port officials can set trucking standards to protect our health, the environment and ensure our safety and security.”

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The East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy is celebrating 10 years of building power and raising standards for working families.