

February 23, 2009

Brian Griley, President  
Southern Counties Express  
18020 S. Santa Fe Ave  
Rancho Dominguez, CA 90220

Mr. Griley:

A diverse group of leaders and community members including drivers like us fought very hard to bring clean trucks into the harbor, and give companies like yours the opportunity to grow responsibly. However, your leadership in purchasing clean energy trucks is clouded by your ultimate dishonoring of the Clean Trucks Program by not being a responsible employer.

Since the Clean Trucks Program launched October 1, we have shown up every day at Southern Counties Express, driven Southern Counties Express trucks and hauled goods for Southern Counties Express clients - yet we are not on the Southern Counties Express payroll.

Using labor brokers is a clear attempt to avoid the responsibility of directly hiring us and it is inconsistent with the Clean Trucks Program's goals.

For years many of us have hauled exclusively for Southern Counties Express under the so-called Independent Contractor model. In just the last four months alone we were hired as Southern Counties Express employees only to be bounced over to a broker called Three G's and currently passed on to yet another broker called Transportation Logistics Company. Being tossed around from one middleman to the next is not what we signed up for.

The current labor broker scheme needs to end; asking us every two months to reapply for a job we are already doing is unfair and the instability causes enormous stress on our families. We are professional, experienced and hard-working port truck drivers who deserve to finally be recognized as your employees – stop skirting the rules and honor the intent and spirit of the Clean Trucks Program.

We demand to be direct employees of Southern Counties Express beginning March 2, 2009. We also ask that Alfredo Vasquez be immediately reinstated after being discharged under unreasonable circumstances. Finally we ask that no signer of the petition face retribution for standing up for what's right.

Sincerely,  
*Your Truck Drivers*

Enclosure (1)

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa  
Councilmember Janice Hahn  
Los Angeles Port Commission  
Long Beach Port Commission