



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

Tuesday February 9, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Isa Flores-Jones, isa@caleja.org

Advocates Resign from Illegitimate CARB Offsets Taskforce

Taskforce recommendations “contradict the interests of the environmental and environmental justice community”

Sacramento - Yesterday, environmental and environmental justice representatives Brian Nowicki and Neil Tangri resigned in protest from the Air Resources Board’s Compliance Offsets Protocol Task Force, citing fellow members’ [“ties to industries and organizations that stand to benefit financially from offsets.”](#) The resignations follow months of [critical objection to the proposed taskforce draft protocols](#) by a national coalition of environmental justice, climate justice, faith-based, and Indigenous rights organizations.

In response to the resignations, Neena Mohan, Climate Justice Associate with the California Environmental Justice, issued the following statement:

“We support the acts of moral protest taken by Neil Tangri, environmental justice representative, and Brian Nowicki, environmental representative, in resigning from the CARB Compliance Offsets Protocol Task Force. We agree: no regulatory task force should be staffed by individuals who stand to gain financially from the outcome of the process. CEJA demands an immediate, independent evaluation of past offset quality before any new protocols are developed, and a suspension of the offsets program until then. CEJA and our partners call on CARB to deliver real climate solutions, not more industry loopholes that allow continued pollution in working neighborhoods and perpetuation of our larger climate crisis. We appreciate the advocacy of the EJAC and impacted communities in speaking out against the offsets program, and look forward to exploring alternatives in the upcoming CARB Scoping Plan update.”

Find Brian Nowicki’s [letter of resignation here](#) and Neil Tangri’s [letter here](#).

###