

# **YES on SB 696**

## **Save Jobs, Help Get Southern California's Economy Moving**

### **What Happened?**

Currently a lawsuit has blocked implementation of nearly 1,100 South Coast Air Quality Management District permits for schools, fire stations, police stations, water quality plants, pollution control projects, hospitals, electricity generation, manufacturing and others. In addition, more than 2000 existing permits are potentially subject to being cancelled.

### **Unless the Legislature Acts, Thousands of Jobs Will Be Destroyed**

Blocking these permits means lost jobs and delays in building needed projects like police stations, fire stations, hospitals, manufacturing and more. Over half of these permits impact small businesses. Altogether, thousands of facilities will be impacted that employ hardworking men and women in southern California.

### **The Economy Will Suffer**

This problem will make southern California's severe economic downturn even worse. Essential services, small businesses and others will have to pay up to \$4 billion to obtain emission reduction credits –if they are available at all. Job losses will contribute to the downward economic spiral. It will also create hurdles for new economic stimulus projects.

### **The Environment Will Suffer**

Unless SB 696 is passed, many upgrade projects at aging facilities will be stopped. That means many of these facilities won't be able to replace older equipment with cleaner and more energy efficient equipment and modern pollution control equipment. Consequently, neither the air quality goals of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) nor the greenhouse gas emission reductions planned for in the AB 32 Scoping Plan can be implemented.

### **What Does SB 696 Do?**

SB 696 is urgently needed to get southern California's economy moving again. It reestablishes the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) credit bank and allows access to its priority reserve to continue the District's strict permitting program that protects public health while allowing essential services and job-creating facilities to be built.

### **Who Supports SB 696?**

SB 696 is sponsored by the South Coast Air Quality Management District which is the agency responsible for improving air quality in the region along with a growing coalition of public officials, businesses, labor, law enforcement, education and water quality officials.

#### **Examples of Stalled Projects**

- School facilities
- Police station emergency backup generator
- Fire station
- Food manufacturer
- Sewage treatment plant
- Renewable energy plant
- Hospital upgrade