



September 8, 2023

**BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT**

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Mark Ross

MARIN COUNTY

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Noelia Corzo
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SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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SONOMA COUNTY

Brian Barnacle
Lynda Hopkins
(Secretary)

Dr. Philip M. Fine
EXECUTIVE OFFICER/APCO

Connect with the
Bay Area Air District:



Honored Members of the Livermore City Council:

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (Air District) mission is to create a healthy breathing environment for every Bay Area resident while protecting and improving public health, air quality, and the global climate. In the Air District's pursuit of improving community health, the agency has supported strategies to reduce lead exposure. In March of 2022, the Air District sent a letter supporting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Strategy to Reduce Lead Exposures and Disparities in U.S. Communities. In January of 2023, the Air District co-signed a letter in support of EPA's efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate exposure to lead by ingestion and inhalation.

The Air District supports EPA's proposed finding that lead emissions from aircraft engines that operate on lead fuel cause or contribute to air pollution that may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health and welfare. As agencies charged with protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of community members, we share a serious concern over the potential for continuing and irreversible damage that lead air pollution from leaded aviation gasoline (avgas) can inflict on Bay Area constituents – particularly to the health and development of exposed children, the safety of airport workers, and the welfare of airport-adjacent communities. Leaded avgas exposure also has the potential to burden public agencies responsible for administering public health, safety, and social safety net services that serve exposed populations, while compromising the safe operation of the many publicly owned airports. Eliminating lead air pollution from avgas should be treated as an urgent public health priority by local governments in the Bay Area.

We write this letter in support of any local government efforts to phase out leaded avgas from use at general aviation airports. We understand that the Livermore Municipal Airport is considering taking steps in this direction and we wholeheartedly support those efforts. As of January 2022, Santa Clara County has banned the sale of leaded avgas at County airports, thereby leveraging the market to achieve this policy goal.

If you have questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact Judith Cutino, Health Officer, by phone at (415) 749-5115 or by email at jcutino@baaqmd.gov.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer