

For immediate release

September 8th, 2016

**Contact:**

Sydney Fang, Sydney@apen4ej.org, 510-703-1311

Kay Cuajunco, California Environmental Justice Alliance, Kay@caleja.org, 619-889-7865

**Governor Brown signs landmark climate bills, SB 32 and AB 197**

Asian Pacific Environmental Network, along with our partner, California Environmental Justice Alliance, played a major role in the passage of comprehensive climate bills that place equity front and center, including SB 32 and AB 197. We applaud the leadership of the Governor and the Legislature in creating this historic set of comprehensive climate laws. We congratulate Senator Fran Pavley and Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia for their leadership and commitment to bold policies that protect our health and climate, and directly benefit environmental justice communities.

SB 32 creates 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and AB 197 enacts accountability reforms at the California Air Resources Board. It also directs the regulatory agency to prioritize measures that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in environmental justice communities, and provide greater transparency through the release of data on air quality.

**Asian Pacific Environmental Network’s Executive Director, Miya Yoshitani released this statement:**

"These laws represent a down payment on equitable solutions to the climate crisis. Low-income, Asian immigrants and refugees across the state, from Richmond to Los Angeles to Coachella, have long endured pollution in the places where we live, work, and play. Improved transparency and accountability in California’s climate laws will reduce pollution in our neighborhoods, and our state will finally recognize the true cost of carbon pollution—the social costs that we have paid with each breath.”

“Now, our families will benefit from solutions that reduce fossil fuel pollution, improve the air our children breathe, and secure critical investments for our most deeply impacted neighborhoods. This is a landmark victory for environmental justice and will serve as a model for states across the country."

###