**Kolodji Corp / Black • Swan, LLC**

8/18/2025

Brian Kolodji, PE
5800 Amerock Court
Bakersfield, California 93306

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: California's Carbon Neutrality Goals

Dear Honorable Governor Newsom,

Recent announcements[1a1,2] by the oil and gas industry indicate plans for rapid deployment (2025 startup) of million ton per year CO2 removal with absorbent-based Direct Air Capture (aDAC)[1b] in Kern County, California and Texas, as promoted by CEC[2] and USDOE[3a]. The problem is that decades proven USEPA [1c1-c8] and USDA/USDOE[1d1,2] tools and data show that these aDAC facilities could lead to devastating food security issues from destruction of California crop production. Having past experience with these tools[4a-p], these findings were well vetted and received in 2024/25: see published proceedings links- 19th Annual California Bioresources Symposium - UC Davis Grand Challenges; American Society of Agronomy's link- Rapidly Scalable to 2 Million Tons/Year of CO2 By 2027- Free Air Carbon Dioxide Enrichment (FACE) Makes Profit Capturing Carbon.; and American Institute of Chemical Engineer's link- (64a) Enhanced Nature Based Direct Air Capture (eDAC) Scaled to 1MM Ton/ Year By 2026. | AIChE).

As of last week, CDFA has communicated[5] that "the buck" or responsibility for addressing these unrefuted concerns with aDAC have been passed from CDFA to CARB by OAR Director Dr. Tawny Mata. Discussion of the matter by CDFA will take place only after "peer reviewed publication." [5a] CARB's Adam Moreno [5b], who has had the information for months, has responded only with silence.

To achieve carbon neutrality, per Table 2-3 on page 96 of CARB's 2022 Scoping Plan Update, 75% of your 100 MMTCO2e goal for 2045 (per page 94) is to be performed with "Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) including Natural and Working Lands (NWL) carbon sequestration, Direct Air Capture (DAC), and Bioenergy with CCS (BECCS)". As aDAC has negative impacts to food security, there is the proposed alternative of enhanced nature-based DAC (eDAC) that instead is proven to benefit food security[1d,e]. A pilot eDAC facility funded in 2018 by a CDFA SWEEP grant had promising results as presented at the 2022 ASA meeting by Kern's UCCE's Director Dr. Brian Marsh[6,1f1,2] and co-authored by USDA's Dr. Bruce Kimball[7]. CDFA truncated funding "because it is not commercially available as a technology...which violates the program's rules."[5c] Go figure that CDFA's Office of Environmental Farming and INNOVATION (OEFI) fails to recognize per USDOE that "…the field of DAC is still in its infancy"[3b] with no commercial-scale DAC projects to-date[1g1,2;8]. The Kolodji Corp commits to beating your 2045 neutrality goal by enhancing natural DAC or nDAC[1h], with added benefits of significantly increased agricultural production and water savings[1h1-h23].

Very truly yours,
Signed original and references in parenthesis sent by mail. Underlined in blue are links to sources.
Brian Kolodji, PE

(661) 565-5339

…Peace be with you…