**From:** Mari Rose Taruc [mailto:marirose@apen4ej.org]
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 20, 2014 6:44 PM
**To:** ARB Board Members
**Cc:** Martha Dina Arguello
**Subject:** Environmental Justice Advisory Committee’s Priority Recommendations for Scoping Plan Update

To: Chairman Nichols and Board Members of the California Air Resources Board

On behalf of the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC), we are forwarding you a copy of our top five priority recommendations for the Scoping Plan Update.

Please also review these links:
[EJAC Recommendations - Priority Final](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ejac/meetings/041014/final_ejac_recommendations.pdf)
[EJAC Recommendations All - Appendix A](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ejac/meetings/041014/appendix_a.pdf)

[EJAC Support Letter Communities](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4ULUyNhb1PaY0ZTR3VIMGRudkU/edit?usp=sharing)
[EJAC Support Letter Enviros](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4ULUyNhb1PaeVRISjl5U1pMQk0/edit?usp=sharing)

[EJAC Support Letter Nurses](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4ULUyNhb1PaS1VoS0dmUEsxRFk/edit?usp=sharing)

We are encouraged to see a number of EJAC recommendations incorporated in the first drafts of the new Scoping Plan, and support the priority recommendations from their last deliberations. The State and ARB have an obligation to accurately assess both the positive and negative impacts of AB 32 on environmental justice communities. For too long environmental justice communities have been ignored and overburdened with health disparities like asthma. Setting aggressive midterm targets for emissions reduction is good for both stemming climate impacts globally and health impacts for Californians with no choice but to live downwind from polluters.

Clean energy solutions can be expanded without economic damage to low-income communities. More investment in public transit ridership, for example, offers simultaneous environmental and economic benefits to those who most need them. All Californians can benefit from our climate programs and energy choices.

A long-standing concern of the global environmental justice community is addressing the weaknesses and potential negative consequences of California’s Cap and Trade program. Improving data collection and reporting measures is essential to our ability to ensure that we are meeting all the mandates of AB 32.

Integrating environmental justice into the fabric of the State’s climate program strengthens the original environmental intent, addresses the needs of communities most impacted by climate pollution and enables shared prosperity for more Californians. We urge you to incorporate the EJAC recommendations into the final Scoping Plan and work with the EJAC to ensure we achieve the multiple goals of AB 32.

Sincerely,

Martha Dina Arguello and Mari Rose Taruc
Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, Steering Committee Members

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EJAC Recommendations - Priority Changes

1. Assess the benefits and problems of AB32 in environmental justice communities so that as AB 32 is implemented, State Agencies can be responsive to and responsible for the communities hit first and worst by climate change. Collect, assemble and distribute the data on GHGs, criteria pollutants, air toxics, allowances and offsets from over 800 reporting stationary sources by the end of 2014 and complete the analysis by June of 2015. Integrate the Adaptive Management Plan in these EJ metrics, and expand this program to include impacts from RPS and LCFS. This data along with facility locations needs to be shared with OEHHA, DPH, CEC and other agencies to explore options and determine the potential impacts on disadvantaged communities using many indicators and establish a baseline for future comparisons.
Agency: ARB, OEHHA, CalEPA, DPH

2. Set an aggressive and accelerated reduction curve beyond 2020 because of the critical importance of pursuing early reductions. California should establish 2030 (a minimum reduction of 40% of 1990 levels) and 2040 (a minimum reduction of 60% of 1990 levels) emissions reduction targets.
Agency: ARB

3. California must reduce its energy use and transition to 100% renewable energy. Prevent new oil and gas operations (refineries, power plants) and unconventional fuels (fracking, tar sands, oil by rail, biomass incineration, waste to energy, artificially induced geothermal wells) from coming online because it adds GHGs and pollution rather than reduces them. Unanticipated consequences of currently deemed renewable energy under the RPS must be evaluated (life cycle emissions, co-pollutants) by the CEC to ensure they do not create new problems in overburdened communities.  The CEC should then render ineligible those technologies that increase air quality burdens.  The CEC should ensure that imported renewable energy, including that from Tribal lands, is consistent with California requirements.
Agency: ARB, CPUC, CEC

4. Financially support transit operations and restoration of transit service and routes in disadvantaged communities. The Plan should recognize and promote the GHG reduction and co-benefits of providing free youth transit passes for public school students and low cost transit service for low-income families.
Agency: ARB, CalSTA

5. Reduce the weaknesses of the Cap-and-Trade program by selling all allowances, not extending transition assistance to the industrial sector with free allowances, canceling or disallowing the offsets program (especially REDD, methane capture from dairy digesters and coal mines, rice, forestry clearcutting) and not exporting this scheme to other jurisdictions.
Agency: ARB