

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER INDIAN WELLS VALLEY SECOND 10-YEAR PM₁₀ MAINTENANCE PLAN

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider approval of the Indian Wells Valley Second 10-Year PM₁₀ Maintenance Plan.

DATE: June 25, 2020

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

Please see the Public Agenda for the meeting location and/or any appropriate direction regarding a possible remote-only Board Meeting; the agenda will be posted ten days before the June 25, 2020, Board Meeting.

This item will be considered at a meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., June 25, 2020, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., June 26, 2020. This item is scheduled to be heard on the Board's Consent Calendar, unless removed upon the request of a Board member or if someone requests to speak on this item at the Board Meeting. Please consult the agenda for the meeting to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

Background

To protect against the adverse health impacts of exposure to particulate matter smaller than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) first set PM₁₀ ambient air quality standards (standard) in 1987, adopting an annual standard of 50 µg/m³, and a 24-hour standard of 150 µg/m³. In 2006, U.S. EPA rescinded the annual PM₁₀ standard and retained the 24-hour standard of 150 µg/m³.

The Searles Valley Planning Area (Searles Valley) was designated nonattainment for the PM₁₀ standard in 1987, shortly after the standard was adopted. The boundaries of Searles Valley included portions of three air districts: the Trona Planning Area in San Bernardino County Air Pollution Control District (now the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District), the Coso Junction Planning Area in the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, and the Indian Wells Valley Planning Area (Indian Wells Valley) in the Kern County Air Pollution Control District (now the Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District). Section 110(a)(1) of the federal Clean Air Act required a PM₁₀ attainment plan to be submitted to U.S. EPA by 1988, a deadline that was extended by U.S. EPA to November 1991. On November 25, 1991, the three air districts jointly adopted a PM₁₀ nonattainment plan for the Searles Valley.

In 2001, CARB requested that U.S. EPA split the Searles Valley into three separate PM₁₀ planning areas, with boundaries coterminous with those of the three air districts. U.S. EPA approved this request on August 6, 2002.

Air quality monitoring data demonstrated that the Indian Wells Valley did not exceed federal PM₁₀ ambient air quality standards during the three-year period from 1999 through 2001. On the basis of this demonstration, the Kern County APCD adopted a 10-year PM₁₀ maintenance plan (2002 PM₁₀ Plan) and redesignation request on September 5, 2002. CARB approved the 2002 PM₁₀ Plan on December 4, 2002, and U.S. EPA approved it and a redesignation to attainment for Indian Wells Valley on May 7, 2003.

Section 175A(b) of the federal Clean Air Act requires CARB to submit a second 10-year PM₁₀ maintenance plan before expiration of the first 10-year plan. For Indian Wells Valley, the period covered by the second maintenance plan is May 7, 2013 through May 6, 2023. The Indian Wells Valley Second 10-Year PM₁₀ Maintenance Plan (2020 PM₁₀ Plan) was adopted by the Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) on May 7, 2020. On June 25, 2020, the Board will consider adopting the 2020 PM₁₀ Plan and requesting U.S. EPA to approve the plan as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan.

CARB staff reviewed the 2020 PM₁₀ Plan and concluded that it, together with the Condensable PM₁₀ Emission Inventory in Attachment 1 of the CARB staff report meets applicable requirements of the Act. In particular, the Condensable PM₁₀ Emission Inventory is a necessary element of the plan and will be submitted into the SIP along with the 2020 PM₁₀ Plan.

Proposed Action

CARB staff recommends that the Board adopt the Indian Wells Valley Second 10-Year PM₁₀ Maintenance Plan and the Condensable PM₁₀ Emission Inventory in Attachment 1 of the CARB staff report and direct staff to submit the plan documents to U.S. EPA as a revision to the SIP.

CARB staff will present a written report at the meeting. Subject to the limitations below, copies of the report may be obtained from CARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814, after May 22, 2020. The report may also be obtained from [CARB's website](https://www2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/california-state-implementation-plans/nonattainment-area-plans/eastern-kern-air) at <https://www2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/california-state-implementation-plans/nonattainment-area-plans/eastern-kern-air>. Because of current travel, facility, and staffing restrictions, the California Air Resources Board's offices may have limited public access. Please contact Chris Hopkins, Regulations Coordinator, at chris.hopkins@arb.ca.gov or (916) 445-9564 if you need physical copies of the documents.

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the meeting and may provide comments by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments not physically submitted at the meeting, must be received **no later than June 22, 2020**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerks' Office, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request.

CARB requests that written statements on this item be filed at least ten days prior to the meeting so that CARB staff and Board members have additional time to consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Webster Tasat, Manager of the Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section, Air Quality Planning and Science Division at (916) 323-4950, or Earl Withycombe, Air Resources Engineer, Air Quality Planning and Science Division at (916) 322-8487.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

CARB has determined that its subsequent approval of the District's 2020 PM₁₀ Plan is a "ministerial" approval for purposes of CEQA (California Code of Regulations, title 14, § 15268) because CARB's review is limited to determining if the Plan meets the requirements of the Act, and CARB lacks authority to modify or not approve the Plan in response to environmental concerns, as described in the CARB Staff Report.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION REQUEST

Consistent with California Government Code Section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the meeting;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; and
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerks' Office at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than ten business days before the scheduled Board meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alterno u otro idioma; y
- Una acomodación razonable relacionados con una incapacidad.

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al (916) 322-5594 o envíe un fax a (916) 322-3928 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de diez días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD



Richard W. Corey
Executive Officer

Date: May 22, 2020

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see [CARB's website](http://www.arb.ca.gov) at www.arb.ca.gov.