State of California

Air Resources Board

BOARD ITEM SUMMARY

ITEM # 20-9-4: Public Meeting to Hear an Informational Update on Assembly Bill 617 Community Emissions Reduction Program Implementation

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:
No action is necessary; this is an informational item only.

DISCUSSION:
The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will be updated on the implementation of Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017). The update will focus on the progress of community emissions reduction program implementation in communities selected in 2018 -- West Oakland, South Central Fresno, Shafter, and El Centro/Heber/Calexico communities. The Board approved the selection of these four communities in 2018 along with three other communities in the South Coast to prepare community emissions reduction programs. Progress for the South Coast communities was provided at the September 10, 2020, Board meeting at which the Board also considered approval of their community emission reduction programs (delayed by statewide shelter-in-place orders).

AB 617 requires that once a community is selected by the Board, the air district containing the community must adopt a community emissions reduction program within one year, then bring the air-district-approved program to the Board for approval. Through this community-driven, collaborative effort, the air districts worked with community steering committees for the West Oakland, South Central Fresno, Shafter, and El Centro/Heber/Calexico communities and developed community emissions reduction programs that were approved by the Board between December 5, 2019, and February 13, 2020.

Following Board approval, the local community members, air districts, environmental justice organizations, industry, CARB staff and other interested stakeholders on began implementation of these community emissions reduction programs. The presentation will provide an update on the following:

- Brief overview of AB 617 and the Community Air Protection Program
- Summary of the Community Air Protection Program's adaptation to the virtual working and meeting environment
- Status of implementation in the West Oakland, South Central Fresno, Shafter, and El Centro/Heber/Calexico communities
- Outline of AB 617 implementation next steps

SUMMARY AND IMPACTS:
Not applicable.