AB32 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON ENERGY, GREEN BUILDINGS AND WATER

MARI ROSE TARUC
EJAC CO-CHAIR

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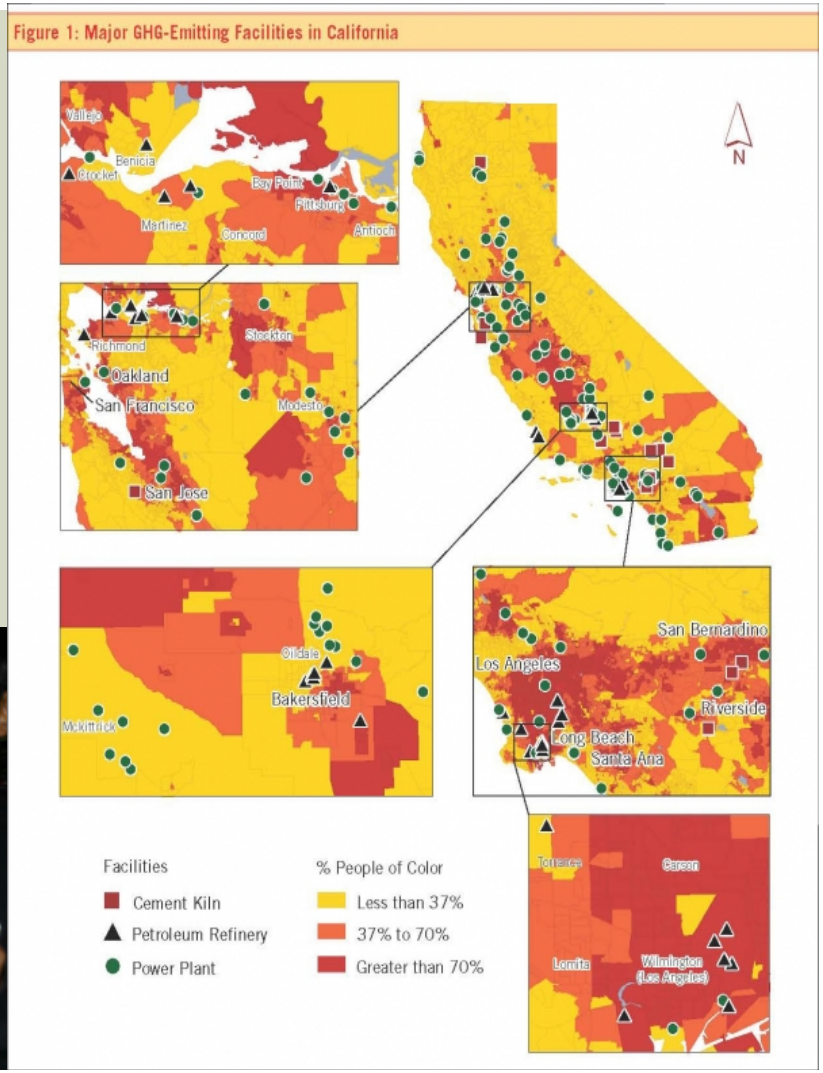
AB 32: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EJAC)

AB 32, Nunez. Air pollution: greenhouse gases: California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

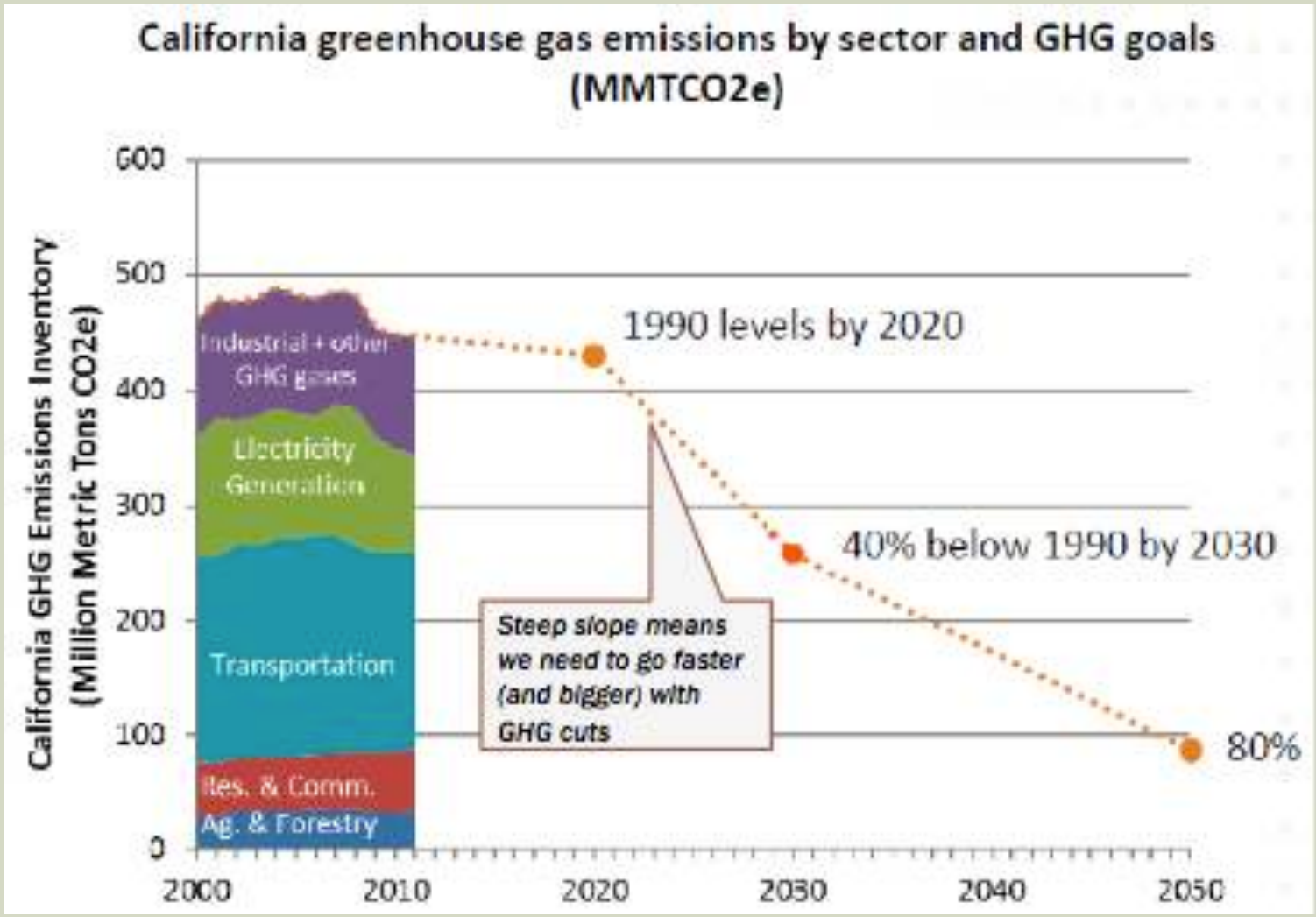
38591. (a) The state board, by July 1, 2007, shall convene an environmental justice advisory committee, of at least three members, to advise it in developing the scoping plan pursuant to Section 38561 and any other pertinent matter in implementing this division. The advisory committee shall be comprised of representatives from communities in the state with the most significant exposure to air pollution, including, but not limited to, communities with minority populations or low-income populations, or both.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES:** disproportionately burdened by pollution and poverty
- **CLIMATE GAP:** low income people of color are hit first and worst by climate change
- **We have solutions!**



2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN



EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

ENERGY GENERATION

- Develop aggressive energy goals toward 100% renewable energy by 2030 to reach emissions reduction sooner, especially if other sectors lag or increase emissions.
- Expand rooftop solar in EJ communities.
- California should fully practice the state's energy loading order. These strategies, in combination with energy storage, should be fully utilized prior to the use of natural gas power plants.
- The CEC should evaluate all renewable energy projects under the RPS for lifecycle emissions and co-pollutants to ensure they do not create new problems in overburdened communities. Render ineligible those technologies that increase local air quality burdens. Ensure that imported renewable energy, including that from tribal lands, is consistent with California requirements.
- Do not use Cap-and-Trade (or carbon trading, offsets) for the Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan should ensure power is generated from sustainable, renewable sources.

EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Prioritize the siting of renewable energy, grid storage, microgrids, and community choice aggregation projects within communities identified by CalEnviroScreen. EJ communities need to be able to reap the environmental and economic benefits of these energy projects. Pilot 10–100 microgrid projects. CEC prioritize and maximize clean energy research and development investments in disadvantaged communities through its EPIC Program.
- Develop innovation hubs for disadvantaged communities in order to support innovations, development and use of clean energy and weatherization, like low-cost solar cell stacking.
- Prevent and mitigate negative land use impacts from energy projects, including increased dust from clearing land.
- CAISO should not pursue regionalizing the energy market if there are negative impacts like natural gas plant emissions increases or health effects on disadvantaged communities. Develop strong coordination between ARB, CPUC, CEC, CAISO, and local air districts in energy related proceedings and policy discussions to prevent unintended consequences.

EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

GREEN BUILDINGS

- Coordinate federal, state, and local agencies to create a one-stop shop for energy efficiency and renovation programs. Focus on the whole house, and on retrofitting the whole community to leverage economies of scale. Establish pilot projects to retrofit substandard low-income housing. CEC guide agencies to lower the barriers to deep energy retrofits of homes, businesses, and public institutions in low- to moderate-income communities.
- Develop incentives for renters and landlords for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects on their buildings.
- Set GHG reduction targets for existing buildings and improve building codes, including a goal of all new construction to be zero net energy (ZNE) by 2020, with none using natural gas. Broaden the definition of a “green building” to include retrofits of existing buildings in disadvantaged communities.
- Provide direction to industry on best practices to rapidly move toward widespread design and construction of green buildings within disadvantaged and low-income communities, and incentivize developers to adopt the standards and implement them. Ensure that building or retrofit costs are not passed along to tenants.

EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

ENERGY AND WATER

- Make pumping of water by the State Water Project in California 100% renewable by 2030, with consumers of the water paying for installation and production along the project right-of-ways.
- Identify the energy use and reduction goals for the proposed California Water Fix and Eco Restore project (formerly the Bay Delta Conservation Plan), including the pumps at Tracy (the single largest energy user in California).
- Encourage regional self-sufficiency and conservation to maximize water supply through water recycling and rainwater capture, low-impact development, end-user education, and use of native plants, and by enforcing the proper use of landscape water. Provide resources to help low-income households install grey water designs for landscape irrigation.
- Promote more education to water end-users about ways to conserve water and energy.

EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

ENERGY FUNDING

- Stop investing in dirty energy. Eliminate subsidies and financing for fossil fuels and technologies such as corn-based biofuels, agricultural methane, biomass burning, waste-to-energy, or other unsustainable projects that result in negative impacts on EJ communities. Use funds for clean energy projects instead.
- Develop incentives, rebates, and financing mechanisms to accelerate equitable access to clean energy technologies in low-income households, small businesses, and other community-serving facilities such as community centers, churches, health clinics, schools, and community-based organizations. Support the transition to electrification of the state's transportation system (freight, transit, vehicles, etc) with clean energy.
- Lower finance barriers and increase access to low- and no-interest energy efficiency financing for the low- to moderate-income single-family, multifamily, and small business sectors. This includes credit enhancements, interest rate buy downs, and supporting the use of alternative measures of creditworthiness to provide greater access to affordable capital.

EJAC INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2030 TARGET SCOPING PLAN

ENERGY AND THE GREEN ECONOMY

- Promote the development of community-driven clean energy projects that hire from disadvantaged communities, prioritize community ownership of and equitable access to clean energy technologies, maximize energy bill reductions, and prioritize anti-displacement strategies.
- In consultation with state workforce agencies, direct implementing agencies of climate programs to develop specific goals to train and facilitate employment of workers from disadvantaged communities.
- For climate projects, employ project labor agreements, best-value contracting and local/targeted hire goals to provide access to career-track construction jobs for disadvantaged workers.
- Implementing agencies should build partnerships with local institutions that have a proven track record of placing disadvantaged workers in career-track jobs (such as community colleges, nonprofit organizations, labor management partnerships, state-certified apprenticeship programs, and high school career technical academies).