

Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Recommendations* in the final version of the Proposed First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan (First Update)

1. Assess the benefits and problems of AB32 in environmental justice communities.

Page 129 of the First Update contains the discussion titled “Assessing the Effects of AB 32 Climate Change Programs in Environmental Justice Communities.”

2. Set an aggressive and accelerated reduction curve beyond 2020 (minimum reductions 40% in 2030 and 60% in 2040).

Page 34 of the First Update states: “California will develop a mid-term target to frame the next suite of emission reduction measures and ensure continued progress toward scientifically based targets. This target should be consistent with the level of reduction needed in the developed world to stabilize warming at 2°C (3.6°F) and align with targets and commitments elsewhere. The European Union has adopted an emissions reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.”

3. Transition to 100% renewable energy.

Page 36 of the First Update states: “Reducing energy-sector emissions to near zero over the long-term will require wholesale changes to the State’s current electricity and natural gas systems. The energy sector will generally need to adapt to a system consisting of near-zero carbon buildings (refer to Section 8 for more discussion of zero net carbon buildings), highly efficient businesses and industry, low-carbon electricity generation, sustainable bioenergy systems, smarter and localized generation, a flexible and modernized transmission and distribution system, more compact land use, and electricity substitutes for fuels currently used for transportation, space heating, and industrial processes.”

4. Financially support transit and restoration of transit service and routes in disadvantaged communities.

Page 50 of the First Update states: “As State agencies proceed with GHG emission reduction planning, it is necessary to integrate the need for significant NOx reductions by 2032 to meet the national ambient air quality standards for ozone. Tools developed to support these planning efforts should emphasize the needs of vulnerable communities, as recommended by EJAC. These needs include, but are not limited to: access to affordable public transit, electric vehicle charging, or other low-carbon fueling infrastructures; accessible affordable housing; and localized public health benefits.”

The Proposed State Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15 recommends \$100 million of auction proceeds funding to implement sustainable communities strategies, including increased access to transit, affordable housing, and active transportation. At least half of the funds are intended to benefit disadvantaged communities.

5. Reduce the weaknesses of the Cap-and-Trade program.

Not addressed in the First Update.

*EJAC’s Recommendations: http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ejac/meetings/041014/final_ejac_recommendations.pdf