

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER ASSEMBLY BILL 617 COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM - COMMUNITY SELECTION AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the approval of the Assembly Bill 617 Community Air Protection Program requirements and selection of initial communities.

DATE: September 27, 2018

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: California Environmental Protection Agency
California Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., September 27, 2018, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., on September 28, 2018. It is expected that this item will be considered on September 27, 2018, but please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least ten days before September 27, 2018, to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

Background

California's air quality programs are responsible for significant public health improvements through statewide and regional air quality planning requirements, advancement of technology-based solutions, and risk reduction efforts near industrial facilities.

However, certain communities continue to experience environmental and health inequities from air pollution. Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017) provides a new community-focused action framework to reduce air pollution and improve public health in communities most impacted by air pollution. The legislation sets out an ambitious implementation schedule, and the Board must set the overall direction of the Community Air Protection Program (Program) by October 1, 2018. Under the Program, CARB must select communities for community air monitoring systems and/or community emissions reduction programs, establish how these must be developed and implemented, and identify new strategies for reducing pollution in all impacted communities. CARB and air districts have specific roles and responsibilities, and successful implementation will require strong collaboration between CARB and air districts, in partnership with local communities.

The legislation also includes requirements for accelerated installation of pollution controls on industrial sources like oil refineries, cement plants, and glass manufacturers, increased penalties for violations of emissions control limits, and greater transparency and improved public access to air quality and emissions data through enhanced online web tools. Most importantly, underpinning AB 617 is the understanding that community members must be active partners in envisioning, developing, and implementing actions to clean up the air in their communities

In October 2017, the Board heard an initial overview on the implementation of the Program, followed by updates to the Board in March 2018 and June 2018. Staff have also released multiple documents for public review and comment, starting with initial concepts that were expanded into detailed documents that contain Program requirements and elements specified in AB 617. Both the Program design and documents were informed by comment letters and discussion at more than 200 outreach events, including community meetings and tours, workshops, town hall meetings, individual and small group meetings, and a multi-stakeholder consultation group. CARB staff also coordinated with air districts on additional outreach within their regions. Based on these discussions, the Board will be considering the following:

Final Draft Blueprint

CARB released the *Final Draft Blueprint* to the public on August 24, 2018. This Blueprint includes: processes and criteria for identifying and selecting impacted communities; statewide strategies to reduce emissions of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants; and requirements for the development of community air monitoring systems and community emissions reduction programs.

The *Final Draft Blueprint* is available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/community-air-protection-program-ab-617>.

Resource Center

Staff have also developed an online Resource Center to support communities throughout California. This online Resource Center, referenced throughout the Final Draft Blueprint, provides the ability for staff to deliver updates quickly to the public as new information becomes available. Information in the online Resource Center address statutory requirements for:

- Assessments of current air monitoring technologies and community air monitoring systems.
- Technology clearinghouse.

The Resource Center will include a variety of additional community resources, including information on the community identification process; access to community air monitoring data and tools; incentive funding information; links to transportation, land use, and mitigation best practices; information on effective community engagement; and other items to support Program implementation. The Resource Center is available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/community-air-protection-program-ab-617>.

Environmental Analysis

A *Draft Environmental Analysis* was released as Appendix G to the Draft Blueprint on June 7, 2018, for a 45-day comment period, which ended on July 23, 2018. The *Draft Environmental Analysis* will not be recirculated for an additional comment period as the edits made to the *Final Draft Blueprint* and *Final Environmental Analysis* do not include significant new information that would require recirculation of the Draft Environmental Analysis pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, Section 15088.5; and therefore, CARB staff will not be accepting additional comments on the Draft Environmental Analysis during this comment period. The *Final Environmental Analysis* as well as responses to environmental comments received on the *Draft Environmental Analysis* will be available to the public prior to the September Board meeting.

Community Selection

CARB staff have compiled a broad list of communities for inclusion in the Program, drawing from community member nominations, air district recommendations, and from CARB's own understanding of air pollution data. Based on the list, CARB staff have developed recommendations for an initial set of communities for selection in the first year of the Program for the Board's consideration. Staff's assessment and recommendations are provided in the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report* which is available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/community-air-protection-program-ab-617>.

CARB, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has reviewed the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report* and concluded that the community assessment and recommendations are exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action may result in significant adverse impact on the environment. A brief explanation of the basis for reaching this conclusion is included in the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report*.

Proposed Action

CARB staff will present the *Final Draft Blueprint* at the meeting. CARB staff recommends that the Board vote to approve the *Final Draft Blueprint*, *Final Environmental Analysis*, and the responses to environmental comments received.

CARB staff will also present the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report* at the meeting, as part of the overall presentation of this item. The Board will select communities for the deployment of air monitoring systems and/or community emissions reduction programs. Although comments on the *Final Draft Blueprint* and the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report* will be accepted during the same portion of the meeting, CARB staff recommends that the Board take a separate vote on the distinct community recommendations matter and adopt Staff's assessment and recommendations that are provided in the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report*.

Copies of the *Final Draft Blueprint* and the *2018 Community Recommendations Staff Report* documents may be obtained from CARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814, on August 24, 2018. The documents may also be obtained from CARB's website at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/community-air-protection-program-ab-617>

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 5:00 p.m., Monday, September 24, 2018**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, 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 Monique Davis, Staff Air Pollution Specialist at (916) 322-7304 or Melissa Niederreiter, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 323-6576.

Live Video/Audio Webcast

For those unable to attend in person, a live internet broadcast (webcast) will be available for the meeting. The webcast can be accessed on the day of the meeting at: <http://cal-span.org/static/meetings-CARB.php>

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 Clerk of the Board 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: 8/23/2018

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 our website at www.arb.ca.gov.