

REPORT:

California Air Resources Board

SYNOPSIS:

The California Air Resources Board met on June 23, 2016 in Sacramento, California. The following is a summary of this meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and file.

Judy Mitchell, SCAQMD Board Member

The Air Resources Board's (ARB or Board) June meeting was held on June 23, 2016 in Sacramento at the California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building. Key items presented are summarized below.

Consent Items

No Consent Items.

Discussion Items

1. Public Meeting to Consider the Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Funding Plan for Low Carbon Transportation and Fuels Investments and the Air Quality Improvement Program

The Board approved the Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Funding Plan (Plan) to allocate Low Carbon Transportation and Fuels funding and the Air Quality Improvement Program funding in the Governor's proposed State Budget. These programs provide incentives for clean vehicle and equipment projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution with a priority to benefit disadvantaged communities. Staff's proposal builds on investments from previous funding cycles by continuing incentives for zero-emission and plug-in passenger cars, clean trucks and buses, and advanced technology freight demonstration projects. New this year is proposed funding for very low carbon fuel production incentives including aviation fuels. The Plan also includes a long-term plan for the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project and related light-duty vehicle incentives as required by State law. At the meeting, the Board amended the Plan to include a contingency plan if the available funds are decreased or increased in the future. This

amendment sets a floor on the level to which the Plan's equity programs can be cut due to a decrease in funds, and also requires staff to include what changes to the Plan would occur if additional funds become available.

2. Public Meeting to Hear the Enforcement Division 2015 Annual Report

The Board heard a presentation on the Enforcement Division's 2015 Annual Report. ARB staff updated the Board on the 2015 enforcement activities that focused on diesel pollutant reduction, vehicle certification and aftermarket parts, consumer products, fuels, and other programs enforced by the Division. Staff discussed how enforcement activities have increased in disadvantaged communities, and what compliance assistance and training the division has provided to stakeholders and local air districts. Staff also informed the Board on an amendment to state law AB1071 to allow up to 50 percent of penalty fees to fund Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs), such as diesel school bus clean-up, the California Council on Diesel Education & Technology, and small engine maintenance and repair training. Finally, staff presented the 2015 enforcement statistics with examples of investigations and their outcomes, and discussed future priorities for the Division.

3. Public Meeting to Hear an Informational Presentation on Air Quality Progress in California Communities

The Board heard an analysis of air quality trends in California over a 25-year period focusing on the disproportional air quality burden in disadvantaged and minority communities. Using the Environmental Justice Screening Method that takes into account social and health vulnerability, exposure and risk, and hazard proximity, the study asked if ARB, local, and federal efforts are shrinking the disparity in healthy air quality between Environmental Justice (EJ) and non-EJ communities. ARB staff studies concluded that as air quality improves throughout the state, the greatest improvement in air quality is occurring at monitoring sites in EJ communities. Though a disparity still exists in EJ communities for several local pollutants, the gap between EJ and non-EJ community exposures has shrunk considerably since 1990 due to regulations and enforcement aimed at local sources such as anti-idling, cleaner diesel fuels, tailpipe emission standards, and retrofit requirements.

4. Public Meeting to Hear an Informational Update on the 2030 Target Scoping Plan Update

The Board heard an informational presentation on the 2030 Target Scoping Plan Update. In the presentation, staff updated the Board on the progress that has been achieved toward meeting the 2020 target of 1990 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels, and provided an evaluation of the challenges ahead in meeting the 2030 goal of reducing GHG emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels. Staff discussed the ongoing collaboration with other state agencies, the role of the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC), and the involvement of the public and experts. Staff is planning to release the draft 2030 Target Scoping Plan in the fall of 2016, with a spring 2017 target date to present the final Plan to the Board.