

1. PCAPCD Board Agenda 2-13-2020

Documents:

[2-13-20 AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. PCAPCD Board Meeting Packet 2-13-2020

Documents:

[2-13-20 BOARD PACKET.PDF](#)



AGENDA
PCAPCD Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 2:30 PM
Placer County Board of Supervisors' Chambers
175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, California

Call to Order

Flag Salute

Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Statement of Meeting Procedures

Any person who wishes to address the Board regarding any item not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of this Board, may do so during the public comment period. However, the Board is not permitted to take action or engage in discussion on topics which are not on the agenda. All items on the agenda will be open for public comments before final action is taken. The Board requests public commenters state your name and association for the record before you speak. There is a 5 minute time limit per speaker, and a 15 minute total comment period per agenda item. The Chair has the discretion to limit the total discussion time on any item.

Approval of Minutes: December 12, 2019 Regular Meeting

Public Comment

Consent: Items 1 and 2

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon these items at one time without discussion. Any Board member, Staff member, or interested citizen may request that an item be removed from the consent calendar for discussion.

- 1. Authorization for Director Trinity Burruss to Participate in the 2020 Capital-to-Capital Program on behalf of the District.** *Adopt Resolution #20-01, thereby authorizing Placer County Air Pollution Control District Director Trinity Burruss to participate in the 2020 Capitol-to-Capitol (Cap-to-Cap) Program on behalf of the District, via participation on the Program's Air Quality Team.*
- 2. Hearing Board Member Term Expiration and Reappointment.** *Reappoint current Hearing Board member, Ms. Diane Przepiorski, as a Public at Large Representative to the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board, extending her term of office an additional three years, from February 29, 2020 to February 28, 2023.*

Information: Item 3

- 3. Sacramento Regional Ozone State Implementation Plan Update.** *No action is required. This is an information item to provide an update regarding the current development status of the Sacramento Regional Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the 2008 and 2015 federal 8-hour ozone standards.*

Closed Session: Item 4

4. **Closed session conference with legal counsel—anticipated litigation/administrative action.** *Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One case; Topic: A potential delay of attainment demonstration for the 1997 ozone standard may result in new air planning requirements and federal actions.*

Information: Item 5

5. **District’s Program to Develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) “Offset Protocol” for Forest Fuel Treatment Projects.** *No action is required. This is an information item to provide an overview and update of the District’s on-going program to develop a greenhouse gas (GHG) “offset protocol” for forest fuel treatment projects.*

Air Pollution Control Officer Report

- A. General APCO updates
- B. Annual Report / Board of Directors Handbook Overview
- C. Burn day Alexa voice search application update
- D. Incentive program update
- E. Fiscal update – financial report provided at meeting

Meeting Adjournment

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting: April 9, 2020, at 2:30 PM

Placer County Air Pollution Control District is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in its public meetings. If you require disability-related modifications or accommodations, please contact the Clerk of the Board. All requests must be in writing and must be received by the Clerk five business days prior to the scheduled meeting for which you are requesting accommodation. Requests received after such time will be accommodated only if time permits.

Materials related to this meeting which are provided to Board members are available for public inspection at the meeting and during business hours at the Air Pollution Control District office at 110 Maple Street, Auburn, CA 95603. District Office Telephone: (530) 745-2330



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MINUTES

PCAPCD Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 2019, at 2:30 PM
Placer County Board of Supervisors' Chambers
175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, California

The Board of Directors of the Placer County Air Pollution Control District met for a regular meeting at 2:30 PM, Thursday, December 12, 2019, at the Placer County Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, California.

The meeting was called to order by acting Chairperson, Kirk Uhler (Vice Chair). Roll call was taken by the Clerk of the Board, with the following members in attendance: Jeff Duncan, Scott Alvord, Kirk Uhler, Paul Joiner, Robert Weygandt, and Jim Holmes. A quorum was established. Greg Janda arrived after roll call and minutes vote, prior to consent items vote.

Representing the District were: Erik White, Air Pollution Control Officer; Adam Baughman, Deputy Air pollution Control Officer; A.J. Nunez, Senior Administrative Services Officer; Heather Kuklo, Air Quality Specialist, Molly Johnson, Air Quality Specialist; Russell Moore, I.T. Technician; and Shannon Harroun, Clerk of the Board.

Flag Salute

Clerk's Statement of Meeting Procedures

Approval of Minutes: August 8, 2019 Regular Meeting

Motion: Weygandt/Duncan

Action: Approved 8/8/19 Minutes

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Weygandt

Abstain: Joiner/Holmes

Public Comment: No public comment.

Consent: Items 1 and 2

- 1. Designation of Members of the Mountain Counties Basinwide Air Pollution Control Council and the Sacramento Valley Basinwide Air Pollution Control Council for 2020.** *Designated Jim Holmes and Trinity Burruss as primary and alternate members, respectively, of the Mountain Valley BCC; and designated Jeff Duncan and Scott Alvord as primary and alternate members, respectively, of the Sacramento Valley BCC. If any of the appointed members' jurisdictions appoint new District Board members in 2020, the new representative from that County, City or Town, will assume the associated role on the BCC's.*
- 2. Approval of Negative Declaration for the Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry Source Category.** *Adopt Resolution #19-19, thereby approving a Negative Declaration for the Control Technique Guideline for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry source category; and approving submittal of the Negative Declaration as a revision to the State Implementation Plan.*

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Motion: Holmes/Alvord

Action: Approved Consent Items 1 and 2 / Unanimous Vote 7:0

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Joiner/Weygandt/Janda/Holmes

Action: Items 3 - 6

- 3. Budget Revision Approving Fund Balance and Technical Budget Revisions for FY 19-20 and Authorization to Fund Public Agency Retirement System, Post-Employment Benefits Trust.** *Adopted Resolution #19-20, thereby approving Budget Revision #20-01, for approval of fund balance and technical budget revisions for FY 19-20 and authorization of a contribution of Five-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) with Public Agency Retirement System (PARS) Post-Employment Benefits Trust for future payments of the District's net pension liability.*

Ms. A.J. Nunez presented the proposed budget adjustments and funding of the PARS Trust account. She noted that when the final budget was presented to the Board at the previous meeting in August, the fund carry over balance was not yet available. As the County has completed the close of FY 18-19 in the WorkDay System, all revenue and expenditures for FY 18-19 have been accounted for. This includes items calculated by the auditor's office, such as Investment Income and Depreciation, which had not been completed when the final budget was brought to the Board in August. Having the final numbers, staff requested budget adjustments to reflect the actual fund balance carryover, additional funds for the CBSEP Program, and updated spend codes.

Ms. Nunez added that since the actual fund balance carry over is known, Staff was proposing a contribution of \$500,000 to the PARS trust account. This would offset the District's unfunded liability of \$4.1 Million as of the last completed audit on 6/30/17. Current unfunded liability is \$4.3 Million. District Staff also recommended that fund reserves above the recommended 15% be made as contributions into the Trust until 50% of the unfunded liability amount is met. These PARS Trust funds would be earning a higher rate of return than the County treasury and could only be used for pension liability.

Ms. Nunez presented a chart showing the details of the proposed funding adjustments, which was included in the Board packet.

Director Alvord asked where the \$500,000 PARS contribution comes from. Ms. Nunez responded that the contribution comes from the fund balance and is included in the Salaries and Benefits spend code.

Motion: Holmes/Alvord

Action: Approved Item 3 / Unanimous Roll Call Vote 7:0

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Joiner/Weygandt/Janda/Holmes

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4. Authorization to Accept Funds under the FY 18-19 FARMER Grant Agreement to Develop a FARMER Reporting Tool; and to Accept FY 19-20 FARMER Funding.

Adopted Resolution #19-21, thereby: 1) authorizing the District to accept additional funds under the FY 18-19 Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program grant agreement with California Air Resources Board (CARB) for development of the FARMER Program Reporting Tool; and 2) authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer to negotiate, sign, and amend as needed, agreements and contracts related to development of a FARMER Reporting Tool; and

Adopted Resolution #19-22, thereby 1) authorizing the District to accept Shared Allocation Pool funds and execute the CARB grant agreement for administration of the FY 19-20 FARMER Program, including potential funding for ongoing development and maintenance of the FARMER Reporting Tool; and 2) authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer to negotiate, sign, and amend as needed, agreements and contracts related to administration and implementation of the FY 19-20 FARMER Program.

Mr. Adam Baughman discussed accepting funding from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a web-based grants reporting tool for a state-funded grant program we partially administer, called the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) program. He stated that the District is also recommending the Board authorize acceptance of FARMER Year 3 funding.

Mr. Baughman explained that a majority of FARMER funding goes straight from CARB to the 17 districts with the largest ag equipment inventories. Funds for the other 18 air districts (including Placer) go into the “Shared Allocation Pool”. In August 2018, the Board authorized our District to implement the Year 1 Shared Allocation Pool portion of FARMER. The Board approved Year 2 in April 2019.

Mr. Baughman provided a brief summary of Shared Allocation Pool program progress to date. In Year 1 of FARMER, there were two rounds of awards. In total, there were 61 projects, mostly tractors and ag pump replacements, across 17 districts, for a grand total of \$4.7 Million. He presented a chart showing the anticipated cumulative project emission reduction benefits by emission type, over the 5 year project life of all awarded projects to date.

Mr. Baughman explained that CARB approached the District to develop a web-based grants reporting tool for local districts to report their FARMER projects to CARB. He stated that the District had done due diligence investigating potential software solutions and selected Salesforce, a pre-authorized government vendor. The District will also select a third-party implementer with experience developing the Salesforce grants platform for other public agencies.

Director Janda asked if CARB will provide future funding for continued support and maintenance of the grants management program. Mr. Baughman answered that CARB has stated their intention to continue to support the program in future years. Mr. White added that the District has communicated to CARB that the District will not continue to support the system without funding from CARB.

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Motion: Janda/Weygandt

Action: Approved Item 4 / Unanimous Vote 7:0

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Joiner/Weygandt/Janda/Holmes

- 5. Redirection of California Air Resources Board Wood Smoke Reduction Program Funds to El Dorado County Air Quality Management District.** *Adopted Resolution #19-23, thereby 1) authorizing the District to continue to participate in CARB's Statewide Wood Smoke Reduction Program; 2) authorizing the redirection of Placer County's portion of funds to the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District to implement the Program in Placer and El Dorado Counties on the District's behalf; and 3) authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to negotiate, sign, and amend as needed, any agreements and contracts related to implementation of the Program for Placer County residents.*

Ms. Heather Kuklo presented the statewide woodsmoke reduction program in effect since to provide incentives to upgrade their non-EPA certified wood stoves and fireplaces to certified wood or gas appliances. In FY 2016/17, SB 1613 appropriated \$5 million to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for the implementation of a wood stove change-out program. The District received \$125,000 for incentive funds. On February 8, 2018, your Board approved participation in the Program as well as authorized the District to establish an agreement with the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (EDCAQMD). The agreement allowed the District's funds to be redirected to the EDCAQMD from CARB, and the EDCAQMD to implement the Program on the District's behalf. As of the meeting date, 27 vouchers had been approved for Placer County residents.

Ms. Kuklo stated that the District anticipates an additional \$125,000 allocation for CARB's second year of funding. Due to the successful partnership currently with the EDCAQMD, the District is proposing to redirect its second allocation of funds to the EDCAQMD for implementation. It is anticipated that there will be no changes in the agreement, other than, extending the contractual deadline and updating the amount of funding that will be re-directed to the EDCAQMD by CARB. District staff will continue to operate in a supportive role and will conduct wood stove inspections within Placer County.

Motion: Holmes/Joiner

Action: Approved Item 5 / Unanimous Vote 7:0

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Joiner/Weygandt/Janda/Holmes

- 6. Authorization to Redirect CAP Incentive Funds to Cost Share Replacement of a Capitol Corridor Passenger Locomotive with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.** *Adopted Resolution #19-24, thereby 1) authorizing the District to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to cost share the replacement of a Capitol Corridor passenger locomotive owned by the California Department of Transportation and Operated by Amtrak; 2) authorizing the District to redirect \$182,857.14 in Community Air Protection (CAP) incentive funds to BAAQMD; and 3) authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer to negotiate, sign, and amend the MOA as needed.*

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Ms. Molly Johnson presented information regarding the redirection of CAP incentive funds to cost share the replacement of a locomotive with BAAQMD. CAP incentive funds are provided by CARB as a result of Assembly Bill (AB) 617. CAP funds are intended to reduce the emission impacts in communities most affected by air pollution. In FY 18-19, the District was awarded \$1,120,159 in CAP funds. At a CAP community meeting held by the District on June 27, 2019, at the Roseville Civic Center, participants indicated support for projects that would directly reduce emissions from locomotives operating in Roseville and at the J.R. Davis Railyard and neighboring train station. This project will replace an old, high polluting 1994 passenger locomotive with a new Tier 4 locomotive, on the Capitol Corridor rail line that runs from the Bay Area to Placer County, including Roseville, Rocklin and Auburn

Ms. Johnson stated that the BAAQMD requested that the District redirect \$182,857 of CAP funds to cost share with other air districts along the rail line. This is proportional to the total project costs based on the percentage the locomotive operates in Placer County. The project will result in an estimated 18 tons of NOx, 0.65 tons of ROG, and 0.28 tons of PM emission reductions on an annual basis, and will reduce localized risk from Diesel PM in the Railyard.

Motion: Holmes/Alvord

Action: Approved Item 6 / Unanimous Vote 7:0

Ayes: Duncan/Alvord/Uhler/Joiner/Weygandt/Janda/Holmes

Air Pollution Control Officer Report

A. General APCO Updates

- District holiday closure. The District office will be closed to the public 12/22/19 – 12/27/19. Critical services will be maintained.
- Burn day status voice search. The District is planning to use Alexa voice application to allow the public to ask questions about burn days in Placer County.
- District response to Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). The recent PSPS did not affect District operations. The District worked with County Office of Emergency Services by providing information on permitted generators, and ensured all sources and facilities needing temporary power did not experience permitting or deployment issues. The District is working with CARB and CAPCOA on consistent statewide solutions to generator issues during power shutoffs.
- 2020 Regulatory Measures List. Mr. Adam Baughman presented an overview of the 2020 regulatory measures list to be published at the end of December, 2019.

B. Incentive Grants Program Update

Mr. White provided an update on the District's incentive program, noting that \$2.7 million in total funding was available for 2019, and \$2.4 million was awarded to 18 projects.

C. FY 17-18 and FY 18-19 Audit – Auditor Letters to the Board provided

Ms. Nunez described the District's upcoming bi-annual audit for FY 18-19 and FY 19-20. The County has contracted with the auditing firm Eide Bailly to conduct the audit. The audit completion date is anticipated to be the end of February. Audit results will be brought to the Board in April.

D. Fiscal update

Ms. Nunez provided the District's financial report.

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Meeting Adjournment at 3:36 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:



Shannon Harroun, Clerk of the Board

Minutes approved by Board of Directors:

Attest: _____
Clerk of the Board

Date



<p>Board Agenda Item 1</p> <p><i>Consent</i></p>
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Agenda Date: February 13, 2020

Prepared By: Shannon Harroun, Clerk of the Board

Topic: Authorization for Director Trinity Burruss to Participate in the 2020 Capital-to-Capital Program on behalf of the District

Action Requested: Adopt Resolution #20-01 (Attachment #1), thereby authorizing Placer County Air Pollution Control District Director Trinity Burruss to participate in the 2020 Capitol-to-Capitol (Cap-to-Cap) Program on behalf of the District, via participation on the Program’s Air Quality Team.

Background: Cap-to-Cap is an annual program, coordinated by the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce, wherein participants travel to Washington, D.C., and hear from and meet with key administration and congressional leaders. Cap-to-Cap provides a unique opportunity for business and community leaders to align around issues concerning the six-county Sacramento region and to work directly with congressional delegates to organize broad-base support for critical initiatives in our region. The District budgets annually for attendance at this event, through participation on the Air Quality Team, by the Air Pollution Control Officer and/or Board members, as interest and availability dictates. City/Town jurisdictions and the County Board of Supervisors also sometimes opt to financially support attendance at this conference by their elected officials, via participation on the various advocacy “teams”.

Discussion: This year’s Cap-to-Cap takes place from April 24th through April 29th, 2020. Director Trinity Burruss would like to participate in the 2020 Cap-to-Cap Program on the Air Quality Team, on behalf of the District.

Fiscal Impact: Director Trinity Burruss’ Cap-to-Cap Program registration and associated travel costs are included in the Board approved FY 2019-20 budget.

Recommendation: The District recommends the Board approve Director Trinity Burruss’ participation in the 2020 Cap-to-Cap Program on behalf of the District, via participation on the Air Quality Team.

Attachments: #1: Resolution #20-01

ATTACHMENT # 1

SUBJECT:

Resolution #20-01



Board Resolution:
Resolution # 20-01

Before the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Board of Directors

In the Matter Of: Authorization for Director Trinity Burruss to Participate in the 2020 Capital-to-Capital Program on behalf of the District

The following **RESOLUTION** was duly passed by the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on **February 13, 2020**, by the following vote:

Ayes: Alvord _____ Berlant _____ Burruss _____ Duncan _____ Holmes _____
Janda _____ Silhi _____ Uhler _____ Weygandt _____
Alternates: _____

Noes: Alvord _____ Berlant _____ Burruss _____ Duncan _____ Holmes _____
Janda _____ Silhi _____ Uhler _____ Weygandt _____
Alternates: _____

Abstain: Alvord _____ Berlant _____ Burruss _____ Duncan _____ Holmes _____
Janda _____ Silhi _____ Uhler _____ Weygandt _____
Alternates: _____

Signed and approved by me after its passage:

_____ Chairperson

_____ Attest: Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, Capital-to-Capital (Cap-to-Cap) is an annual program, coordinated by the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce, wherein participants travel to Washington, D.C., and hear from and meet with key administration and congressional leaders; and

WHEREAS, Cap-to-Cap provides a unique opportunity for business and community leaders to align around issues concerning the six-county Sacramento region and to work directly with congressional delegates to organize broad-base support for critical initiatives in our region; and

WHEREAS, Director Trinity Burruss would like to participate in the 2020 Cap-to-Cap Program on the Air Quality Team, on behalf of the Placer County Air Pollution Control District; and

WHEREAS, Director Burruss' Cap-to-Cap Program registration and associated travel costs are included in the Board approved FY 2019-20 budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Board of Directors hereby approves Director Burruss' participation in the 2020 Cap-to-Cap Program on behalf of the District, via participation on the Air Quality Team.



<p>Board Agenda Item 2</p> <p><i>Consent</i></p>
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Agenda Date: February 13, 2020

Prepared By: Shannon Harroun, Clerk of the Board

Topic: Hearing Board Member Term Expiration and Reappointment

Action Requested: Reappoint current Hearing Board member, Ms. Diane Przepiorski, as a Public at Large Representative to the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board, extending her term of office an additional three years, from February 29, 2020 to February 28, 2023.

Discussion: Ms. Przepiorski has indicated that she is willing to serve another three-year term on the District Hearing Board. The reappointment of Ms. Przepiorski is necessary to provide a continued ability (as required by State statute) for the District Hearing Board to hear variance and abatement order petitions from District Staff, the public and permitted industry. The current term of office for Ms. Przepiorski expires on February 28, 2020. Upon the District Board’s reappointment of Ms. Przepiorski, her term of office will be extended for another three-year term, to February 28, 2023.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the reappointment of Ms. Diane Przepiorski as the Public at Large Representative to the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board until February 28, 2023.



Board Agenda Item #3

Information

Agenda Date: February 13, 2020

Prepared By: Yushuo Chang, Planning and Monitoring Section Supervisor

Topic: Sacramento Regional Ozone State Implementation Plan Update

Action Requested: No action is required. This is an information item to provide an update regarding the current development status of the Sacramento Regional Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the 2008 and 2015 federal 8-hour ozone standards.

Background: The Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. Accordingly, U.S. EPA has promulgated several 8-hour ozone standards, including: 1) 2008 standard of 0.075 parts per million (ppm); and 2) 2015 standard of 0.070 ppm. Ozone nonattainment areas are given a classification of “marginal”, “moderate”, “serious”, “severe”, or “extreme” for each standard, depending on how much the area exceeds the standard. Each classification has its own attainment requirements and attainment deadline, with higher classifications having more stringent requirements and later attainment dates. The Sacramento Federal Nonattainment Area (SFNA), which includes Sacramento and Yolo Counties, and portions of Placer, El Dorado, Solano, and Sutter Counties, does not currently meet these two 8-hour ozone standards. Table 1 shows the SFNA’s current nonattainment classifications and the associated attainment date for each standard.

Table 1: Ozone Standards and SFNA Classifications

	2008 NAAQS	2015 NAAQS
Standard	0.075 ppm	0.070 ppm
Classification	Severe	Moderate
Attainment Deadline	July 20, 2025	August 4, 2024

Because the SFNA is designated as nonattainment for the federal ozone standards, the SFNA air districts work collaboratively with California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a regional ozone attainment plan (known as the ozone SIP). The ozone SIP is a comprehensive plan to describe how the SFNA will attain the relevant federal ozone standard at or prior to the attainment deadline. The major SIP components include emission inventory development, control measure evaluation, regulatory commitments, and modeling analysis for attainment demonstration. The emission inventory presents and projects the base year and each milestone year ozone precursors emissions from all sources (stationary, area-wide, and mobile sources) within the SFNA. All reasonably available control measures are evaluated in the SIP, and regulatory commitments are identified if the SFNA needs to obtain additional emission reductions. Finally, a photochemical modeling result is documented to show that

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the SFNA can attain the ozone standard by the attainment deadline based on the projected emissions, existing and committed control measures.

The ozone SIP includes the proposed motor vehicle emission budgets (MVEB) that will be used by the Sacramento Area Council of Government (SACOG) for its transportation conformity determination. The Federal Clean Air Act requires transportation planning agencies to conduct a conformity analysis to determine that the highway and transit projects with federal funding and approval are consistent with (“conform to”) the air quality goals established by a SIP. “Conformity” means that transportation activities will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards. The SFNA air districts work closely with SACOG and CARB by using SACOG’s transportation plan to project the future on-road mobile source emissions as the MVEB for transportation conformity, to ensure that regional transportation projects will not jeopardize the SIP’s goal to achieve the relevant ozone standard.

In addition to an ozone SIP, each SFNA air district also needs to prepare its own Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) SIP. This is a document reviewing and identifying if any existing district rules should be amended, or if any new source in the jurisdiction is subject to federal control technology requirements. After the SIP submittal, the SFNA air districts must prepare a Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) report every three years until the attainment year. The RFP report is to demonstrate that the SFNA is achieving each projected milestone emission rate identified by the SIP and is progressing toward meeting the federal ozone standard. If the SFNA can’t demonstrate meeting the standard by the attainment deadline, a regulatory “clock” may be activated by U.S. EPA to place sanctions on the emission offset, highway fund, and Federal Implementation Plan. These clocks range from 18 months to two years. The clocks can be stopped when the SFNA submits a SIP revision including additional regulatory commitments to attain the ozone standard.

When the ozone data from all SFNA monitoring stations show that the SFNA meets the relevant ozone standard, the SFNA air districts can submit a Clean Data Finding request to U.S. EPA to determine that the ozone standard has been achieved. U.S. EPA will issue a Determination of Attainment to notify that the SFNA has attained the relevant ozone standard. The SFNA air districts then can submit a Redesignation Request and a Maintenance Plan to 1) request the SFNA be redesignated to attainment and 2) demonstrate that the SFNA can maintain the attainment status through the 10-year period following the effective date of redesignation.

Updates on the SFNA’s status for each relevant ozone standard are provided below.

Discussion:

2008 Ozone Standard

The SFNA adopted the Attainment and Reasonable Further Progress Plan for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard in October 2017. CARB approved the plan and submitted it to U.S.

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EPA in December 2017, and the plan is pending final approval by U.S. EPA. The SFNA air districts are working toward attaining this standard by the July 2025 attainment deadline.

Due to a recent Court decision (836 F.3d 1218 (9th Cir. 2016)), U.S. EPA has requested that all nonattainment areas submit a commitment with additional contingency measures that will automatically take effect upon failure to either, 1) meet the RFP milestones set by the ozone SIP; or 2) attain the ozone standard by the attainment date. The proposed contingency measures must achieve further emission reductions and take effect immediately without further agency action when a finding of failure is made by U.S. EPA for the nonattainment area. District staff is working with the SFNA districts to identify applicable contingency measure(s) for the 2008 ozone standard's SIP. The regional commitment must be submitted to U.S. EPA in March 2020. The SFNA air districts need to adopt the identified contingency measure(s) within a year after the commitment.

2015 Ozone Standard

On June 4, 2018, U.S. EPA issued a final rule (83 FR25776) classifying the SFNA as “moderate” nonattainment for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard based on the three-year air quality data from 2014 to 2016. This final rule became effective in August 2018. As “moderate” nonattainment, the SFNA shall demonstrate attainment with the standard on or prior to August 4, 2024. The 2015 nonattainment classification causes an attainment deadline issue because it requires the SFNA to attain the 2015 ozone standard almost a year earlier than the July 20, 2025 deadline for the less stringent 2008 ozone standard (see Table 1). Accordingly, the SFNA is unlikely to meet the August 2024 deadline based on the nonattainment classification given for the 2015 ozone standard.

Section 181(b)(3) of the CAA allows a nonattainment area to voluntarily request the area be reclassified to a higher classification. Due to the attainment deadline issue for the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards, the SFNA air districts determined it is in the region's best interest to request that CARB petition the U.S. EPA to reclassify the SFNA to “serious”. A classification from “moderate” to “serious” would extend the attainment deadline for the SFNA to August 2027. Although a serious classification will add additional planning and control requirements (e.g., vehicle miles traveled demonstration and contingency provisions), the SFNA is already subject to these requirements based on the previous higher classifications of “severe” for the 1997 and 2008 ozone standards. Consequently, the reclassification request will not add any new requirements for the SFNA. Therefore, the District, in cooperation with the SFNA air districts, is working with CARB on the reclassification request. This reclassification request should be submitted to U.S. EPA in 2020. The revised ozone SIP for the 2015 ozone standard is due no later than August 3, 2022.

Along with the reclassification request and SIP preparation efforts, the District is required to prepare a Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) SIP analysis for the 2015 ozone standard. The Ozone Implementation Rule for the 2015 standard (83 FR 62998) requires the District's SIP rules meet RACT requirements for volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides emissions control on stationary sources prior to the respective ozone SIP

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submittal. Therefore, the District will conduct a thorough review and comparison of all source categories in the U.S. EPA's Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) documents with existing District rules and sources currently operating in Placer County. The RACT SIP analysis for the 2015 ozone standard is due on August 3, 2020.

Fiscal Impact: The above discussion is to provide the background and an update of the current status for the 2008 and 2015 federal 8-hour ozone standards. There will be no direct fiscal impact to the District due to the regional ozone planning efforts. There are no plans to increase staff resources beyond those currently allocated in the budget.

Recommendation: This is an information item and no action by the Board on this item is required.



Board Agenda Item 4

Closed Session

Agenda Date: February 13, 2020

Prepared By: Erik White, Air Pollution Control Officer

Topic: Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel—Anticipated Litigation/
Administrative Action

Closed session conference with legal counsel—anticipated litigation/administrative action. *Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One case; Topic: A potential delay in the attainment designation for the 1997 ozone standard may result in new air planning requirements and federal actions. Action taken by the Board in closed session will be reported in open session.*



Board Agenda Item 5

Information

Agenda Date: February 13, 2020

Prepared By: Bruce Springsteen, Compliance and Enforcement/
Permitting & Engineering Manager

Topic: District’s Program to Develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) “Offset Protocol” for Forest Fuel Treatment Projects

Action Requested: No action is required. This is an information item to provide an overview and update of the District’s on-going program to develop a greenhouse gas (GHG) “offset protocol” for forest fuel treatment projects.

Background: By direction of your Board, the District has an ongoing program to support forest management projects that reduce air pollution in Placer County. Over one-half of our county is forested land at risk for catastrophic wildfire, due to heavy fuel loads from past fire suppression and harvesting, as well as from the recent tree mortality epidemic from drought and insect attack. Wildfires are a significant source of air pollution, including fine particulate matter, ozone forming precursors, and air toxics, which are extremely detrimental to regional air quality and public health. Wildfires are also a significant source of GHG’s.

One of our forest initiatives, begun in April 2015, is a program to develop a GHG offset protocol for forest “fuel treatment” projects (Protocol). GHG offset protocols are accounting procedures to quantify GHG reductions, which allow for monetary support of GHG reduction projects through sales of the GHG benefits. We intend to demonstrate the utility of the Protocol and get it adopted into a carbon offset registry.

Forest fuel treatments involve selective and strategic removal of small diameter trees, understory, and brush through mechanical means or prescribed fire. Treatments are critically needed to return our forests to a fire resilient condition through mitigating the size and severity of wildfire. However, treatment implementation costs are frequently significantly higher than potential revenues from wood products and bioenergy. Treatments provide a wide range of ecosystem service benefits, including reduced fire suppression costs and protection of our upper watersheds that supply clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation, wood products, and air quality. For our forests, treatments also frequently provide GHG benefits, through:

- Modifying fire behavior such that severity and size (fire “shadow”) are reduced.
- Increasing stored carbon in large fire-resilient trees.
- Enhancing tree growth rate from increased availability of water, nutrients, and light.
- Using treatment residuals for renewable energy and long-lived wood products that sequester carbon and displace energy intensive alternatives, such as concrete and steel.

- Reducing occurrence of “delayed reforestation” resulting from high severity fire that converts forests to long-term grassland or shrub-land.

The Protocol work is being funded through contributions from the District, the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Sierra Pacific Industries, and the Coalition of the Upper South Platte (a Colorado-based conservancy). Work is being conducted by a team led by Spatial Informatics Group, with collaboration from the University of San Francisco, University of California Berkeley, and TSS Consultants.

Discussion: A first draft of the Protocol was completed in 2017. The Protocol incorporates the latest science in forest growth and wildfire dynamics, and combines field data with probability-based wildfire models. The Protocol was then used to demonstrate GHG benefits in a case-study evaluation of treatments in the neighboring Eldorado National Forest. The Protocol and case study were extensively vetted by a wide range of stakeholders, including forest scientists, regulatory agencies, conservation groups, offset registries, and land managers.

In October 2018, the Protocol and case-study were submitted to the American Carbon Registry (ACR) for consideration to be adopted as a “voluntary” protocol. An anonymous peer review panel conducted numerous reviews. In October 2019, ACR made a decision not to move forward with the Protocol, for reasons including: (1) issuance of GHG credits prior to achieving emission reductions; (2) temporary increase in GHG emissions above the no-project baseline; (3) high GHG risk due to very large treatment project land size; and (4) use of models that require site-specific inputs and those that rely on uncertain and probabilistic wildfire ignition and wildfire behavior.

In November 2019, we submitted an application requesting Protocol adoption into the Climate Action Reserve’s (CAR) Climate Forward GHG Registry and Trading program. CAR is interested, and the District is working on determining funding requirements and a review/adoption schedule.

Fiscal Impacts: To continue the District’s work to get the Protocol approved into a GHG registry, there are no plans to increase staffing resources beyond those currently allocated in the budget, and no District budget augmentations are proposed at this time.

Recommendation: This is an information item and no action by the Board on this item is required.