

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 6, 2014

AGENDA NO. 10

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the April 2014 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Receive and file.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.  
Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

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## **BACKGROUND**

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for April 2014. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update; Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center); Business Assistance; and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Governments.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE**

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which staff participated during the month of April. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

April 9

- SCAQMD hosted a Town Hall Meeting in Thermal where staff presented information on air monitoring in the Coachella Valley, projects funded by the AB 1318 Mitigation Fee Fund, and school filter installations.
- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Inland Valley Environmental Justice Task Force meeting and provided information on the relocation of a nearby rendering plant.

April 10

- Staff participated in the Long Beach Public Health Week Conference and provided information on SCAQMD, clean technology, and the health effects of air pollution.

April 16

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Taskforce meeting in Palm Desert and provided an update on the Town Hall Meeting held in Thermal as well as information on the Lawn Mower Exchange program and Clean Air Awards.

April 17

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting and provided information on the Clean Air Awards, Lawn Mower Exchange program, and SCAQMD's workshop at the ACT Expo.

April 22

- Staff participated in the Community Hospital of San Bernardino's Earth Day event and provided information on SCAQMD and the Lawn Mower Exchange program.

April 23

- Staff participated in the Whittier/Avocado Heights Clean Air Coalition community meeting and presented on the SCAQMD and how to file an air quality complaint.
- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Riverside County Health Coalition meeting and provided information on the Clean Air Awards, Lawn Mower Exchange program, and SCAQMD's workshop at the ACT Expo.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either alone or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects;
- Clean air technologies and their deployment;
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events;
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD's rule and policy development; and
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates at the following events:

### April 3

- Mayfair Middle/High School 5th Annual Career Fair, Lakewood.

### April 5

- Cucamonga Valley Water District Earth Day Event, Rancho Cucamonga.

### April 6

- Star Eco Station Children's Earth Day Event, Environmental Science Museum & Exotic Wildlife Rescue Facility, Culver City.

### April 11

- Jet Propulsion Laboratory Climate Day Event, Pasadena Convention Center.

### April 12

- Los Angeles Sanitation Districts Earth Day 2014 Event, Whittier.
- Earth Day Event at Gilman Historic Ranch and Wagon Museum, Gilman Historic Ranch, Banning.
- Bolsa Chica Wetlands Earth Day Event, Bolsa Chica Conservancy, Huntington Beach.

### April 17

- Chino Creek Wetlands Earth Day Event, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Chino.

### April 19

- Lewis Apartment Communities Resource Fair, Homecoming Terra Vista, Rancho Cucamonga.
- City of Colton Earth Day Event, Colton City Hall.
- Coachella Earth Day Festival, Esperanza Youth & Family Center Inc., Coachella.

#### April 22

- Earth Day 2014, The Road to a Waste-Free Future, Alhambra.
- Earth Night in the Garden, Western Municipal Water District, Riverside.
- University of Southern California's Staff Assembly Earth Day Celebration Event, Los Angeles.
- Kaiser Permanente and Goodwill Southern California Earth Day E-Waste Event, Baldwin Park.
- 2014 San Bernardino Community Hospital Earth Day Extravaganza Event.
- Orange County Transportation Authority, BikeShare Dedication & Earth Day Event, Fullerton.

#### April 23

- The Water Garden, Earth Day 44th Birthday Celebration, Santa Monica.
- Earth Day at East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park.

#### April 24

- Santa Fe High School Earth Day Event, Santa Fe Springs.
- University of Southern California's Earth Day Fair, Los Angeles.
- San Pedro High School Earth Day Event.

#### April 25/26

- 7th Annual Costa Mesa Community Run, Fairview Park, Costa Mesa.

#### April 26

- 6th Annual Claremont Earth Day Celebration, Claremont Village.
- Earth Day Concert and Celebration, Polliwog Park, Manhattan Beach.
- Earth Day in the Garden, Stephen M. White Middle School community garden, Carson.
- Air Power Games 2014, Santa Ana College.

### **SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES**

SCAQMD regularly receives requests for staff to speak on air quality-related issues from a wide variety of organizations, such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. SCAQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

#### April 4

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, and led a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters, laboratory, and alternative fuel vehicles to 17 students from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

April 17

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD and air quality to 50 attendees from the Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital/PEP Pioneers in Torrance.

April 18

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality and displayed two alternative fuel vehicles to students in the environmental science class at Wilson High School in Hacienda Heights.

April 23

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, regional air quality and environmental issues to 40 students at the ITT Technical Institute in Sylmar.

April 25

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, and gave a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters and laboratory. In addition, staff demonstrated an alternative fuel vehicle to two attendees from the Methodist Hospital Foundation in Arcadia.
- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, and led a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters and laboratory, and displayed an alternative fuel cell vehicle to 17 students from Pomona College.

**COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS**

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG<sup>®</sup> line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of April 2014 are summarized below:

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Main Line Calls                  | 2,992     |
| 1-800-CUT-SMOG <sup>®</sup> Line | 1,667     |
| After Hours Calls*               | 292       |
| Spanish Line Calls               | <u>76</u> |
| <i>Total Calls</i>               | 5,027     |

\* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS**

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of March 2014 is summarized below:

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Calls Received by PIC Staff | 58           |
| Calls to Automated System   | <u>1,152</u> |
| <i>Total Calls</i>          | 1,210        |

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Visitor Transactions   | 210    |
| E-Mail Advisories Sent | 66,934 |

**BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency’s rule development process. SCAQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and via on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Conducted two free on-site consultations
- Provided assistance on one request for a variance
- Provided permit application assistance to 122 companies
- Issued 27 clearance letters

**Types of business assisted:**

|                   |                          |                                 |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Restaurants       | Dry cleaners             | Communications center           |
| Gas stations      | Machine shop             | Auto & boat repair shops        |
| Auto body shops   | General contractors      | Seed packaging & distribution   |
| Food manufacturer | Metal plating facilities | Cabinet/furniture manufacturers |

**OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

Field visits and communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

|              |                |             |                 |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Alhambra     | Beverly Hills  | Claremont   | Diamond Bar     |
| Agoura Hills | Big Bear Lake  | Coachella   | Downey          |
| Aliso Viejo  | Bradbury       | Colton      | Duarte          |
| Anaheim      | Brea           | Commerce    | Eastvale        |
| Arcadia      | Buena Park     | Compton     | El Monte        |
| Artesia      | Burbank        | Corona      | El Segundo      |
| Avalon       | Calabasas      | Costa Mesa  | Fontana         |
| Azusa        | Calimesa       | Covina      | Fountain Valley |
| Baldwin Park | Canyon Lake    | Cudahy      | Fullerton       |
| Banning      | Carson         | Culver City | Garden Grove    |
| Beaumont     | Cathedral City | Cypress     | Gardena         |
| Bell         | Cerritos       | Dana Point  | Glendale        |
| Bell Gardens | Chino          | Desert Hot  | Glendora        |
| Bellflower   | Chino Hills    | Springs     | Grand Terrace   |

|                      |                 |                       |                  |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Hawaiian Gardens     | Lake Forest     | Palos Verdes Estates  | Santa Clarita    |
| Hawthorne            | Lakewood        | Paramount             | Santa Fe Springs |
| Hemet                | Lawndale        | Pasadena              | Santa Monica     |
| Hermosa Beach        | Loma Linda      | Perris                | Seal Beach       |
| Hidden Hills         | Lomita          | Pico Rivera           | Sierra Madre     |
| Highland             | Long Beach      | Placentia             | Signal Hill      |
| Huntington Beach     | Los Alamitos    | Pomona                | South El Monte   |
| Huntington Park      | Los Angeles     | Rancho Cucamonga      | South Gate       |
| Indian Wells         | Lynwood         | Rancho Mirage         | South Pasadena   |
| Indio                | Malibu          | Rancho Palos Verdes   | Stanton          |
| Industry             | Manhattan Beach | Rancho Santa          | Temecula         |
| Inglewood            | Maywood         | Margarita             | Temple City      |
| Irvine               | Menifee         | Redlands              | Torrance         |
| Irwindale            | Mission Viejo   | Redondo Beach         | Tustin           |
| Jurupa Valley        | Monrovia        | Rialto                | Upland           |
| La Cañada Flintridge | Montclair       | Riverside             | Vernon           |
| La Habra             | Montebello      | Rolling Hills         | Villa Park       |
| La Habra Heights     | Monterey Park   | Rolling Hills Estates | Walnut           |
| La Mirada            | Moreno Valley   | Rosemead              | West Covina      |
| La Palma             | Murrieta        | San Bernardino        | West Hollywood   |
| La Puente            | Newport Beach   | San Clemente          | Westlake Village |
| La Quinta            | Norco           | San Dimas             | Westminster      |
| La Verne             | Norwalk         | San Fernando          | Whittier         |
| Laguna Beach         | Ontario         | San Gabriel           | Wildomar         |
| Laguna Hills         | Orange          | San Jacinto           | Yorba Linda      |
| Laguna Niguel        | Palm Desert     | San Juan Capistrano   | Yucaipa          |
| Laguna Woods         | Palm Springs    | San Marino            |                  |
| Lake Elsinore        |                 | Santa Ana             |                  |

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following state and federal offices:

- U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
- U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- U.S. Congressman Bill Shuster
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Anthony Cannella
- State Senator Lou Correa
- State Senator Noreen Evans
- State Senator Jean Fuller

- State Senator Loni Hancock
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Jerry Hill
- State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
- State Senator Richard Lara
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator William Monning
- State Senator Fran Pavley
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Mimi Walters
- Assembly Member Travis Allen
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Manuel Perez
- Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following groups:

Audio Engineering Society (AES) in California, Los Alamitos  
 Alhambra Chamber of Commerce  
 American Cancer Society, Riverside  
 American Heart Association, Riverside  
 American Lung Association, Inland Valley  
 Banning Chamber of Commerce  
 Beaumont Adult School  
 Beaumont Chamber of Commerce  
 Brea Chamber of Commerce  
 Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
 California League of Cities, Riverside County Division  
 California State University, Fullerton  
 Clean Air Coalition Group of North Whittier & Avocado Heights  
 Coalition for Tobacco Free Communities, Riverside County  
 Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Task Force  
 El Segundo Chamber of Commerce  
 Encino Chamber of Commerce  
 Environmental Charter High School, Lawndale  
 Green Garden Group, Los Angeles  
 Fullerton College  
 Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
 Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce



Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce  
 Inglewood Chamber of Commerce  
 Inland Empire Asthma Coalition, ALA  
 Inland Valley Environmental Justice Task Force  
 League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division  
 League of California Cities, Orange County Division  
 Los Angeles Business Council  
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce  
 North Orange County Legislative Alliance  
 OmniTrans Public Transit Agency, San Bernardino  
 Orange County Council of Governments  
 Orange County Transportation Authority  
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce  
 Redondo Beach Sea Lab  
 Riverside County Health Coalition  
 Riverside County Health Department  
 Riverside County Department of Environmental Services  
 Riverside County Transportation Commission  
 Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)  
 Riverside Unified School District  
 Riverside Water District  
 San Bernardino Associated Governments  
 San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce  
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
 Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce  
 Soboba Indian Tribe, San Jacinto  
 South Bay Environmental Service Center, Torrance  
 Southern California Association of Governments, Orange County District  
 Southern California Association of Government, Los Angeles County District  
 State Compensation Insurance Fund, Southern California Claims, Riverside Department  
 South Orange County Economic Coalition  
 South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
 Upland Chamber of Commerce  
 Westminster Chamber of Commerce  
 Western Riverside County Council of Governments  
 Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)
 

- Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter, Hemet
- Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter, Moreno Valley
- Northwest Chapter, Corona
- Southwest Chapter, Meniffee