

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 7, 2014

AGENDA NO. 10

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the September 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.

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Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM:jns

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for September 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 September. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

September 4

- Information was provided on several facilities and public comment was received at the Rule 1118 Flare Minimization Plan meeting in Carson.

September 17

- An Exide Community Advisory Committee meeting was held in Boyle Heights. Staff provided an overview on issues related to Exide and received comments from Committee members and the public related to the facility.

September 18

- Staff participated in the Healthy San Bernardino meeting, providing information on programs available through the Clean Communities Plan for the City of San Bernardino.

September 26

- Staff participated in the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting to discuss public health education and outreach, while providing information on air quality issues related to asthma, the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan, and the Clean Air Awards.

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:

September 6

- City of Artesia's "A Chance to Go Green" Event, Artesia Park.

September 17

- PortTech Expo Event, Port of Los Angeles, San Pedro.
- 2014 Anaheim Transportation Faire & Chili Cook Off "Ridesharing Goes on Vacation," Downtown Anaheim.
- Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce Business Expo "Get Business Rockin," Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs.
- Second Annual L.A.'s Great Future Awards Ceremony, Target Terrace & the Grammy Museum, Downtown Los Angeles.

September 19 - 20

- Ninth Annual Santa Monica AltCar Expo & Conference, Santa Monica Civic Center.

September 20

- Sixteenth Annual Rialto Family Festival, Rialto Civic Center.
- SCAQMD's Fourth Annual Drive Electric Week Event, SCAQMD's Headquarters, Diamond Bar.
- Twentieth Annual River Rally, 2014 River Clean-Up & Environmental Expo, Wiley Canyon Road, Santa Clarita.
- Hollypark Knolls Apartment Community Health Fair, Inglewood.

September 25

- Green Apple Day of Service – Health and Wellness Fair, Victoria Elementary School, San Bernardino.
- Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) Fifteenth Annual Advancing the Choice Expo, South Coast Winery Resort, Temecula.

September 26

- Behr Environmental Awareness Fair, Behr Process Corporation, Santa Ana.

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.

September 5

- Twelve students from California State University, Long Beach's Education – International Training Program were presented an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and given a tour of the agency's laboratory, displayed clean alternative fuel vehicles, and SCAQMD's air monitoring station in Anaheim.

September 10

- An overview on SCAQMD and air quality was presented to 20 attendees at Mitsubishi Electric US, Inc., in Cypress.

September 17

- Twenty-one representatives from the Taiwan Environmental Protection Agency in the Republic of China toured the agency's laboratory, displayed clean alternative fuel vehicles and were presented an overview on SCAQMD and air quality.

September 18

- Staff presented an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and displayed clean alternative fuel vehicles to a group of 16 representatives from the Association of Women in Water, Energy, and Environment in Los Angeles and Orange County. Staff, along with representatives from Southern California Gas Company and Eastern Municipal Water District, also provided a panel discussion on air quality policy, regulation, & compliance to this group.

September 19

- A delegation of 21 members, visiting from China, were presented an overview on SCAQMD, air quality and provided a tour of the agency's laboratory, and displayed clean alternative fuel vehicles.

September 23

- A presentation on air pollution oversight and impacts of air quality regulations on fracking was given to 300 members of the Titan Student Union at the Symposium on the Impact of Oil Extraction at California State University, Fullerton.
- Staff gave a presentation on the use of SCAQMD's Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMs) to monitor Carbon Monoxide (CO₂), Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x), Sulfur Oxides (SO_x) and other criteria air pollutants to three representatives from the Chinese Electricity Council.

September 26

- Presentations were given on electric vehicles and how their use can be promoted, and on mobile source emissions trading mechanisms to a delegation of 11 from the Municipality of Shenzhen Province, in Guangdong, China, at the California Air Resources Board office in El Monte.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of September 2014 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,749
1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	1,940
After Hours Calls*	441
Spanish Line Calls	<u>96</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	5,226

* 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 September 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	42
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,240</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	<i>1,282</i>

Visitor Transactions	187
E-Mail Advisories Sent	4,787

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 10 free on-site consultations
Provided permit application assistance to 150 companies
Issued 29 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

Auto Body Shops	Auto Repair Shops	Cabinet/Furniture Manufacturer
Construction & Architecture	Distribution Centers	Dry Cleaners
Gas Stations	General Contractors	Printing Facilities
Restaurants		

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

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

Arcadia	Buena Park	Dana Point
Artesia	Clermont	El Segundo
Aliso Viejo	Carson	Fontana
Anaheim	Chino	Fullerton
Banning	Colton	Garden Grove
Beaumont	Costa Mesa	Glendora
Brea	Cypress	Hemet

Hermosa	Montclair	San Jacinto
Huntington Beach	Monterey Park	Sierra Madre
Irvine	Monrovia	Signal Hill
Inglewood	Menifee	South Pasadena
Lawndale	Mission Viejo	Temple City
La Habra	Murrieta	Temecula
La Verne	Newport Beach	Upland
La Canada Flintridge	Ontario	Wildomar
Lake Elsinore	Placentia	Yorba Linda
Lake Forest	Redondo Beach	Yucaipa
Los Alamitos	Riverside	
Los Angeles	Rialto	
Long Beach	Rosemead	
Lynwood	San Marino	

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following State and Federal Offices:

- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congressman Henry Waxman
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Fran Pavley
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Mark Wyland
- Assembly Member Toni Atkins
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Roger Hernandez
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez
- Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following government and business organizations:

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
Carson Chamber of Commerce
California Natural Resources Agency
Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
Irwindale Chamber of Commerce
Long Beach Chamber of Commerce
Loma Linda University
Orange County Business Council
Orange County City Managers Association
Orange County Transportation Authority
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Riverside Transit Agency
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments
Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce
San Bernardino Associated Governments
South Bay Council of Governments
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
South West California Legislative Council (Chambers)
 -Temecula Valley Chamber
 -Murrieta Chamber
 -Lake Elsinore Chamber
 -Wildomar Chamber
 -Menifee Chamber
Southern California Association of Governments
Upland Chamber of Commerce
West Side Cities Council of Governments
West Shore Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)
 -Greater Riverside Chapter
 -San Gorgonio Pass Chapter, Beaumont
 -Southwest Chapter, Lake Elsinore
Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce

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

American Lung Association (ALA) in California, Inland Counties
American Heart Association, Riverside
American Diabetes Association, Riverside
American Cancer Society, Inland Counties
Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County
Better Breathers Club (ALA), Riverside
Habitat for Humanity
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma Coalition
Riverside County Health Coalition
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
University of California, Riverside
U.S. Green Building Council, Inland Empire Chapter