

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 3, 2015

AGENDA NO. 13

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the February 2015 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: an 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:jf

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for February 2015. 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 February. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

February 11

- Staff participated in the American Lung Association's planning meeting for the Inland Counties Lung Force Expo on May 2, 2015 at American Career College in

Ontario. SCAQMD will be participating in the Lung Force Expo health fair to promote air quality awareness.

February 25

- Staff helped coordinate a community meeting related to Allenco Oil Company in the University Park neighborhood of South Los Angeles. The meeting provided an update on air quality and odor issues related to Allenco as well as an update on the facility's operation and permit. Staff also discussed SCAQMD's proposed Oil and Gas rule changes.

February 27

- Staff coordinated SCAQMD's Environmental Justice for All: A Conversation with the Community conference at The Center at Cathedral Plaza, Los Angeles. Nearly 300 attendees, representing government agencies, academia and community organizations, as well as other community stakeholders, heard presentations, panel discussions and keynote speakers discuss ways in which the government and community can work better on environmental justice issues in the future.

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:

February 4

- SCAQMD's Public Hearings for Proposed Supplement to the 24-hour PM2.5 State Implementation Plan (SIP) were held at the Buena Park Community Center and the East Los Angeles Library.

February 5

- SCAQMD's Public Hearing for Proposed Supplement to the 24-hour PM2.5 SIP was held at the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton and the Louis Rubidoux Public Library in Riverside.

February 6

- Southern California Edison's 13th Annual "Connecting the Evolution of Electricity to Black History," Edison's Energy Education Center, Irwindale.

February 27

- Western Riverside Council of Government's Future Cities Conference at the Riverside Convention Center.

February 27 & 28

- Southland Credit Union's Race on the Base Event, Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos.

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.

February 3

- Sixteen representatives from China's State Forestry Administration, hosted by the U.S.-China Business & Culture Exchange Center, visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency, air quality, and toured the laboratory.

February 6

- Three representatives from the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, 1st District, hosted by SCAQMD Board Member Michael Cacciotti, visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency, air quality, and toured the laboratory.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line, the Spanish line, and after hours calls to each of those lines. Calls received in the month of February 2015 were:

Calls to SCAQMD's Main Line and the 1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	4,723
Calls to SCAQMD's Spanish-language Line	<u>71</u>
Total Calls	4,794

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of February 2015 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	146
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,240</u>
Total Calls	1,386
Visitor Transactions	245
E-Mail Advisories Sent	16,915

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 four free on-site consultation
Provided permit application assistance to 168 companies
Issued 22 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Auto Repair Shops	Metal Processing Facilities
Dry Cleaners	Printing Facilities	Furniture Manufacturers
Gas Stations	Aerospace Manufacturers	Construction & Architecture
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:

Anaheim	Huntington Park	Murrieta
Arcadia	Inglewood	Pasadena
Bell	Irwindale	Perris
Beaumont	Jurupa Valley	Redlands
Buena Park	La Palma	Riverside
Carson	La Canada	Rosemead
Claremont	Long Beach	San Fernando
Colton	Los Angeles	San Marino
Commerce	Los Alamitos	South Gate
Cypress	Maywood	South Pasadena
Flintridge	Montebello	Temecula
Gardena	Moreno Valley	Torrance
Hawthorne	Monterey Park	Temple City
Hemet	Monrovia	Vernon

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

- U.S. Senator James Inhofe
- U.S. Congressman Pete Aguilar
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn
- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Ian Calderon
- Assembly Member Ed Hernandez
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Yong Kim
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Ling Ling Chang
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina

- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

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

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
 Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
 Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
 Big Bear Chamber of Commerce
 Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Dewitt Petroleum, South El Monte
 Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
 Highland Chamber of Commerce
 Inland Empire League of Cities
 Irwindale Chamber of Commerce
 League of California Cities, Inland Empire Division
 Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
 North Orange County Legislative Alliance
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce
 Riverside Transit Agency
 Riverside County Transportation Commission
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
 San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
 San Bernardino Associated Governments
 South Bay Council of Governments
 South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
 Southwest California Legislative Council
 -Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce
 -Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
 -Wildomar Chamber of Commerce
 -Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce
 -Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of Commerce
 -Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Western Riverside County Council of Governments (WRCOG)
 Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)
 -Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
 -Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter, Hemet
 -Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter, Moreno Valley
 -Northwest Chapter, Norco
 -San Gorgonio Pass Chapter, Beaumont

-Southwest Chapter, Murrieta
Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce

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

American Cancer Society, Riverside
American Lung Association in California, Inland Counties
American Heart Association, Riverside
Beaumont School District
Burbank Green Alliance
Carson Community Center
Center for Community & Environmental Justice, Jurupa Valley
Clean Air Now, Riverside
Coalition for a Safe Environment, Wilmington
Competitive Edge Charter School, Yucaipa
Desert Mirage High School, Thermal
Dollarhide Neighborhood Center, Compton
Edison's Energy Center, Irwindale
Environmental Charter High School, Wilmington
First 5 Riverside County Children & Families Commission
Gardena Senior Center
Hawthorne Senior Center
Inland Action Network, Inland Communities
Inglewood Senior Center
Jurupa Unified School District
Kiwanis Club of Big Bear Valley
Lawndale Senior Center
Louis Rubidoux Public Library
Mesa View Middle School, Calimesa
South Bay Environmental Services Center, Torrance
Yucaipa Charter School