

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 9, 2015

AGENDA NO. 9

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the November 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:jns

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## **BACKGROUND**

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

November 19

- Staff participated in the Riverside County Health Coalition meeting to discuss public health education and outreach. Staff provided information on the Air Quality Sensors Workshop to encourage participation.

November 20

- Staff participated in the Healthy Communities meeting at the San Bernardino City Hall. Staff provided information on the Clean Communities Plan (CCP) program and demonstrated environmentally-friendly janitorial equipment which is available in the CCP pilot community.

November 25

- Staff assisted with a community meeting on the proposed Revised Title V Permit for Exide Technologies located in Vernon.

**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:

November 1

- American Lung Association's LUNG FORCE - Los Angeles Walk Event, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

November 2

- American Lung Association's LUNG FORCE - Inland Empire Walk Event, Ontario.

November 4

- U.S. Green Building Council, Inland Empire Chapter's Fifth Annual Green Building and Business Expo 2014, Solar Max Technology, Inc., Riverside.
- San Bernardino County's Vital Signs Event, National Orange Show, San Bernardino.

#### November 5

- Inland Empire Resource Conservation District & California Association of Resource Conservation Districts' Event at the Cultural Center in Victoria Gardens, Rancho Cucamonga.

#### November 6

- Western Riverside Council of Governments; Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalitions' Eighth Annual Environmental Youth Conference, Diamond Lake Visitors Center, Hemet.

#### November 8

- American Lung Association's LUNG FORCE - Orange County Walk Event, Mason Regional Park, Irvine.

#### November 10-13

- Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association's Fuel Cell Seminar, Long Beach Convention Center.

#### November 14

- Molina Health Care (and other health care agencies') Care 4 a Healthy Inland Empire event, National Orange Show, San Bernardino.

#### November 18

- SCAQMD's Long Beach Town Hall Meeting, Long Beach.

#### November 19

- Public workshop on Proposed Amended Rule 1420.1 – Emission Standards for Lead and Other Toxic Air Contaminants, East Los Angeles Public Library.

### **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.

#### November 4

- Seven visitors from South Korean received an overview on SCAQMD and air quality, then toured the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters.
- 26 representatives from Triway International Group's hosted tour by the Chinese National Bureau of Statistics received an overview on SCAQMD and air quality.

November 7

- 20 representatives from the Inner Mongolia Chinese Delegation, being hosted by California State University San Bernardino, toured the SCAQMD's laboratory.

November 13

- 25 representatives from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health received an overview on SCAQMD and air quality, participated in a discussion on air monitoring, and toured the SCAQMD's laboratory.

November 18

- 21 representatives from the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau of Delegates, China staff toured SCAQMD's laboratory.

November 19

- 24 representatives from Triway International Group's hosted tour by the Department of Guangxi Zhuang, Autonomous Region Party Committee Staff received an overview on SCAQMD and air quality, discussed alternative fuel vehicles, and toured the SCAQMD's laboratory.
- Staff presented an overview on SCAQMD and air quality to 70 University of Southern California undergraduate students.
- Staff presented an overview on SCAQMD and current air quality issues to 29 students from Gondinez Fundamental High School, Santa Ana.

**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 November 2014 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,021
1-800-CUT-SMOG <sup>®</sup> Line	1,224
After Hours Calls*	795
Spanish Line Calls	<u>34</u>
Total Calls	4,074

\* 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 November 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	597
Calls to Automated System	<u>2,021</u>
Total Calls	2,618
Visitor Transactions	211
E-Mail Advisories Sent	14,252

## **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 three free on-site consultations  
Provided permit application assistance to 96 companies  
Issued 15 clearance letters

### **Types of business assisted:**

Auto Body Shops	Auto Repair Shops	Cabinet/Furniture Manufacturer
Dry Cleaners	Distribution Centers	Aerospace Parts Manufacturers
Gas Stations	Printing Facility	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:

Arcadia	Covina	Glendora
Aliso Viejo	Cypress	Hawthorne
Anaheim	Duarte	Hemet
Baldwin Park	El Monte	Irvine
Brea	El Segundo	Irwindale
Buena Park	Fountain Valley	Laguna Niguel
Costa Mesa	Gardena	Lawndale

La Habra  
La Palma  
Lake Forest  
Long Beach  
Monrovia  
Moreno Valley  
Murrieta  
Newport Beach

Pasadena  
Placentia  
Rancho Palos Verdes  
San Bernardino  
San Dimas  
San Gabriel  
Temecula  
Tustin

West Covina  
Upland  
Yorba Linda

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. Congressman Duncan Hunter
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Curt Hagman
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

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

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce  
Association of Cities, Orange County  
Banning Chamber of Commerce  
Beaumont Chamber of Commerce  
Bentley Prince Carpet Manufacturer, Irwindale  
Corona Chamber of Commerce  
Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce  
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce  
Irwindale Chamber of Commerce  
Jurupa Valley Chamber of Commerce  
League of California Cities, Orange County Division  
North Orange County Legislative Alliance  
Orange County Council of Governments

Orange County Transportation Authority  
Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce  
Riverside Transit Agency  
Riverside County Transportation Commission  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce  
San Bernardino Associated Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
South Bay Area Chamber of Commerce  
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Southern California Association of Governments  
Termo Oil and Gas Exploration Company, Long Beach  
Temecula Chamber of Commerce  
Upland Chamber of Commerce  
Western Riverside County Council of Governments  
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)  
    -Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter, Moreno Valley  
    -San Gorgonio Pass Chapter, Beaumont  
    -Southwest Chapter, Lake Elsinore

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

Culver City Senior Center  
Healthy San Bernardino Coalition  
Inland Action Group, Inland Empire  
Mary Philips Senior Center, Temecula  
Native American Environmental Protection Coalition, Temecula  
Native American Health Representatives, San Bernardino  
Ocean View School District, Huntington Beach  
Riverside County Health Coalition  
Santa Monica Senior Center  
San Bernardino County Children's Network