

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 6, 2015

AGENDA NO. 10

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the January 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.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.  
Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM:jf

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## **BACKGROUND**

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

### January 14

- Staff participated in the American Lung Association's planning meeting for their Inland Counties Lung Force Expo health fair. SCAQMD will be participating in the Lung Force Expo health fair to promote air quality awareness.

### January 15

- Staff attended the Healthy San Bernardino meeting and provided information on current programs for residents, including the upcoming residential lawn mower exchanges and the Clean Communities Plan fireplace gas log buy-down program. Staff also displayed and demonstrated a fuel cell vehicle.

### January 20

- SCAQMD staff attended the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma Coalition meeting and provided information on the upcoming SCAQMD Environmental Justice For All Conference.

### January 21

- Staff participated in the Asian Youth Center Community Partnership meeting in San Gabriel and provided information on SCAQMD community based programs such as, Check Before You Burn, and the upcoming SCAQMD Environmental Justice For All Conference.

### January 22

- SCAQMD staff attended the ribbon cutting for the City of Coachella Corporate Yard EV Charging Station funded by AB 1318 (V.M. Perez) mitigation fees. Staff displayed and demonstrated the Volt hybrid electric vehicle and provided information about SCAQMD to approximately 40 high school students.

### January 29

- Staff attended the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting and provided background information on SCAQMD and several community-based incentive programs including, Check Before You Burn and the Voucher Incentive Program, that encourage residents living in certain areas to switch to cleaner burning natural gas log fireplaces.

## **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:

January 17

- SCAQMD’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. “Day of Service Forum,” California Science Center Los Angeles.

**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.

January 13

- 23 representatives from the Republic of China’s Environmental Protection Administration, Department of Environmental Monitoring, hosted by Cal Poly Pomona, visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency, air quality standards, planning & monitoring, participated in a discussion on alternative fueled vehicles, and toured the laboratory.
- SCAQMD staff visited the Western Academy School of Robotics in Hemet and spoke to 60 students, where they presented an overview on the agency, air quality, and conducted a dry ice air quality demonstration to visually explain how air pollution is formed in our region.

January 30

- Fifteen students from the Western Academy School of Robotics in Hemet visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality, participated in a discussion on alternative fueled vehicles, and toured the laboratory.

**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 January 2015 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,490
1-800-CUT-SMOG <sup>®</sup> Line	1,652
After Hours Calls*	531
Spanish Line Calls	<u>42</u>
Total Calls	4,715

\* 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 January 2015 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	130
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,332</u>
Total Calls	1,462
Visitor Transactions	270
E-Mail Advisories Sent	22,843

## **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 one free on-site consultation  
Provided permit application assistance to 74 companies  
Issued 26 clearance letters

### **Types of business 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:

Alhambra	Canyon Lake	Fountain Valley
Arcadia	Cathedral City	Fullerton
Banning	Coachella	Garden Grove
Beaumont	Costa Mesa	Hemet
Blythe	Corona	Huntington Beach
Brea	Desert Hot Springs	Indio
Buena Park	Duarte	Indian Wells
Calimesa	Eastvale	Jurupa Valley

La Habra  
La Palma  
Lake Elsinore  
La Quinta  
Laguna Hills  
Laguna Niguel  
Laguna Woods  
Los Angeles  
Menifee  
Moreno Valley

Mission Viejo  
Murrieta  
Norco  
Newport Beach  
Palm Desert  
Palm Springs  
Perris  
Placencia  
Rancho Mirage  
Redlands

Riverside  
San Jacinto  
Santa Ana  
Temecula  
Tustin  
Yorba Linda  
Wildomar

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. Senator James Inhofe
- U.S. Congressman Pete Aguilar
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congressman Paul Cook
- U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn
- U.S. Congressman Steve Knight
- U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congresswoman Norma Torres
- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
- U.S. Congressman Alan Lowenthal
- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
- U.S. Congresswoman Mimi Walters
- State Senator Benjamin Allen
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Isadore Hall
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Ricardo Lara
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Tony Mendoza
- State Senator Janet Nguygen
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Travis Allen

- Assembly Member Autumn Burke
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Tom Daly
- Assembly Member David Hadley
- Assembly Member Ed Hernandez
- Assembly Member Roger Hernandez
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Yong Kim
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Assembly Member Reggie Jones-Sawyer
- Assembly Member Don Wagner
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron
- Assembly Member Kim Young

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

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce  
 Arcadia Chamber of Commerce  
 Arcadia Police Department  
 Anaheim Chamber of Commerce  
 Association of California Cities, Orange County  
 Beaumont Chamber of Commerce  
 California Air Resources Board  
 California State University, San Bernardino  
 Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce  
 Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce  
 Orange County Council of Governments  
 Orange County Business Council  
 Orange County City Managers Association  
 Orange County Transportation Authority  
 Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce  
 Riverside Transit Agency  
 Riverside County Department of Public Health  
 Riverside County Transportation Commission  
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
 San Bernardino Associated Governments

South Bay Council of Governments  
Southern California Association of Governments  
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)  
-WRCOG Clean Cities Coalition  
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)  
-Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside  
-Hemet/San Jacinto, 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 Lung Association in California, Inland Counties  
Asian Youth Center, San Gabriel  
Beaumont School District  
Carson Senior Center  
Carson Senior Center YMCA  
Church of God in Christ, Los Angeles  
Corona Public Library  
Corona Senior Center  
Compton Unified School District  
Dales Senior Center, Riverside  
Dollarhide Neighborhood Center, Compton  
Downey High School  
Environmental Priorities Network, Manhattan Beach  
First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Los Angeles  
Fresh Start Charter School, Los Angeles  
Gardena Senior Center  
Inglewood Church  
Inglewood Senior Center  
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition  
Jim Gilliam Senior Center, Los Angeles  
Hawthorne Senior Center

Healthy San Bernardino Coalition  
Lawndale Senior Center  
Loma Linda University  
Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma Coalition  
Moreno Valley Unified School District  
Norco Senior Center  
Riverside County Health Coalition  
Second African Methodist Episcopal Church, Los Angeles  
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, San Jacinto  
University of California, Riverside  
Watts Senior Center, Los Angeles  
Westchester Senior Center, Los Angeles  
Western Center Academy Charter School, Hemet  
Western Municipal Water District  
Yvonne Burke Senior Center, Los Angeles