

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 5, 2021

AGENDA NO. 25

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee held a meeting remotely on Friday, October 8, 2021. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Ben J. Benoit, Chair
Administrative Committee

JW:cb

Committee Members

Present: Chair Ben Benoit, Committee Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Cacciotti
Board Member Gideon Kracov
Supervisor Janice Rutherford

Absent: Senator (Ret.) Vanessa Delgado, Vice Chair

Call to Order

Chair Benoit called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** There were no concerns to report.
2. **Chair's Report of Approved Travel:** There was no travel to report.
3. **Report of Approved Out-of-Country Travel:** There was no travel to report.

4. **Review November 5, 2021 Governing Board Agenda:** Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, noted the November 5, 2021 meeting is expected to be a long meeting and suggested the re-designation request for PM 2.5 item be taken first. Chair Benoit agreed to re-order the items to take PM 2.5 first and Mr. Nastri confirmed the agenda will be modified accordingly.

Board Member Kracov requested a briefing on the PM 2.5 redesignation request and maintenance plan.

5. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):** There was no compensation report.
6. **Update on South Coast AQMD Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Efforts:** Dr. Anissa Heard-Johnson, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, provided an update on agency efforts.

Dr. Heard-Johnson highlighted several cultural remembrances taking place in October, such as National Disability Awareness, Persian Festival of Autumn, National Coming Out day, and Indigenous Peoples day.

Dr. Heard-Johnson reported that cultural infographics have been sent to staff and our community to educate and raise awareness on different holidays.

Dr. Heard-Johnson also provided an update on the book club and reported that she is meeting with each division.

Mr. Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, provided public comment on historic events, the government, and climate change concerns.

7. **Budget and Economic Outlook Update:** Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer, highlighted continuing trends. She reported that year-to-date port data continues to show significant growth, with volumes up over 25 percent. Expenditures are a bit higher than before, but that is due to the timing of pay periods that will smooth out over time. Ms. Whynot reported overall permit activity is down 22 percent and that there were higher numbers of potentially expiring permits in October compared to recent months. She indicated those numbers are expected to continue to go down. Staff called many of the companies with the most permits and 20-25 percent of those were already paid or will be reinstated soon.
8. **Status Report on Major Ongoing and Upcoming Projects for Information Management:** Ron Moskowitz, Chief Information Officer/Information Management, reported that the South Coast AQMD mobile application has surpassed 50,000 installations, and the award-winning application was recently

featured on CNBC as one of the top in the nation. Mr. Moskowitz reported that the initial phase of the security assessment was completed last week. The findings are currently being reviewed and confirmed to prioritize next steps. The assessment is to align the district with industry cyber security framework and best practices to ensure availability, integrity and confidentiality of the information systems and data.

Mr. Eder asked about getting copies of the Board Retreat meeting.

9. **Report of RFPs/RFQs Scheduled for Release in November:** Sujata Jain, Chief Financial Officer, Finance, reported that this is a routine item to issue a request for qualifications and quotations to pre-qualify vendors for purchase of computers, printers, network hardware, software and audio-visual equipment.

ACTION ITEMS:

10. **Establish Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2022:** Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, reported that this item establishes the Board meeting schedule for calendar year 2022. He indicated that the proposed calendar includes meetings on the first Friday of the month, no meetings in July, and pointed out that the April Board meeting would be on Good Friday.

Supervisor Rutherford requested to add future Board Retreat dates in advance. Mr. Nastri indicated that we will do this going forward.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Rutherford, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

11. **Appropriate Funds for U.S. EPA Science to Achieve Results and NASA Citizen Science Projects, Issue Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring Equipment:** Andrea Polidori, Atmospheric Measurements Manager, Science & Technology Advancement, reported that this action is to appropriate funds from U.S. EPA as part of their Science to Achieve Results program to engage, educate and empower California communities on the use and application of air quality sensors. This action is also to appropriate funds from NASA to deploy more air quality sensors to the community and complete data analysis in order to finalize corresponding reports and issue purchase orders for air quality sensors and monitoring systems.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Benoit, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

12. **Amend Contracts for Legislative Representation in Sacramento, California:** Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media, reported that this item is to extend the contracts for three Sacramento consultants for one more year as they have provided effective performance.

Board Member Kracov expressed support for this item and the importance of this work. He asked for clarification about the legislative session. Mr. Alatorre indicated that is the second year of a session. Board Member Kracov stated that it makes sense to have these consultants work for the entirety of the session. He also stated there needs to be clear coordination and division of duties between the three consultants and that our legislative priorities and objectives are also clearly defined. Mr. Alatorre added that federal and state Goals and Objectives will be reviewed by the Legislative Committee in December or January.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti commented that at Legislative Committee he can see there is a coordinated effort ongoing between staff and the three consultants.

Board Member Kracov encouraged MPT Cacciotti as the Chair of Legislative Committee and staff to engage Board Members with lobbyists if there are opportunities.

Chair Benoit agreed and stated there should be more opportunities as we get back to Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Moved by Kracov; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

13. **Appropriate Funds, Execute and/or Amend Contracts, and Issue Solicitations and Purchase Orders for AB 617 Implementation:** Ms. Jain reported we received \$21.8 million for the AB 617 Implementation Grant and \$19 million of this was already appropriated in the budget. The remaining \$2.5 million is the residual amount that staff is asking for Board approval to purchase capital assets, execute contracts and purchase supplies.

Board Member Kracov disclosed that he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is a Board Member of the California Air Resources Board, which is involved in this item.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Kracov, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

14. **Amend Provisions of South Coast AQMD's Salary Resolution, Teamsters Local 911 MOU, and SC-PEA Terms & Conditions of Employment Relating to Vacation Leave Accrual Limitations:** John Olvera, Deputy Executive Officer, Administrative & Human Resources, reported that this action proposes amendments to South Coast AQMD's Salary Resolution, the Teamsters MOU, and the PEA terms and conditions of employment relating to provisions regarding vacation leave accrual limitations. Mr. Olvera informed that South Coast AQMD employees stop accruing vacation time once their vacation leave balance exceeds 360 hours at the end of the year. Due to cost saving measures throughout the year, staff has been limiting the use of vacation leave time and as a result, a substantial number of employees will exceed the limit and will stop accruing vacation leave time next year. This proposal seeks approval of amendments to temporarily suspend vacation leave limits. The 360-hour accrual limit will be reinstated and implemented for all employees at the end of next year. Sufficient funding for the amendments is available in the budget.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Benoit, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

15. **Execute Agreement with California High-Speed Rail Authority Setting Forth Framework for Development of Future Contract to Reduce Construction Emissions and Satisfy General Conformity for Burbank to Los Angeles Segment of California High-Speed Rail Project:** Susan Nakamura, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources, reported that this action is to enter into an agreement with High-Speed Rail for a future contract with High-Speed Rail to address construction emissions associated with one segment of the High-Speed Rail Project for Burbank to Los Angeles segment. There are three segments associated with the High-Speed Rail project: Burbank to Los Angeles, Burbank to Palmdale and Anaheim to Los Angeles. This action is only for one segment of Burbank to Los Angeles. Ms.

Nakamura provided background on the action, stating that High-Speed Rail is seeking funding from the Federal Railroad Administration. They have completed the environmental document for this particular segment, and it was released in the summer, but still needs to pass through all environmental clearance, which would mean meeting the general conformity requirement. They are seeking an agreement with South Coast AQMD to develop a future contract where we would help to secure emission reduction projects to ensure that the emissions are fully mitigated to zero. Staff will require that they would first use all the cleanest construction equipment, mitigate all the emissions to the extent possible, and then California High Speed Rail Authority would contribute funds to the projects that South Coast AQMD would fund, including all of our administrative costs, including staffing. The exact amount that would be associated with this is not certain but could range from \$18 million to \$46 million. There is also a provision in the agreement that this is only for this segment and does not set a precedent for other segments.

Chair Benoit inquired if they will be coming back to us for the other segment. Ms. Nakamura confirmed that this is just one of the three segments and that the next segment they are interested in entering into an agreement with is the Burbank to Palmdale segment.

Chair Benoit mentioned that the Colton segment is a concern to him and other Board Members.

MPT Cacciotti commented about the commercial landscaping and construction that will be done, such as removal or planting of trees and suggested they incorporate electric equipment and that should be added to the draft.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Kracov, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado

WRITTEN REPORT:

16. **Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for the April 23, 2021 Meeting:** The report was acknowledged and received.
17. **Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for the April 30, 2021 Special Meeting:** The report was acknowledged and received.

OTHER MATTERS:

18. **Other Business:** Chair Benoit asked for an update on the oil spill. Mr. Nastri updated that the Coast Guard is the lead agency that is responsible for spills on the water and we deployed mobile monitors on Monday, have personnel at the incident command center and are coordinating on air quality issues as part of the incident command. Dr. Miyasato reported on flux sense measurements and samples collected. Sulfur was fairly high, which would explain the many odor complaints. VOC levels were typical ambient levels. Dr. Polidori reported that we deployed mobile monitoring platforms from the port area to Huntington Beach, Newport Beach and Dana Point. No elevated concentrations of VOCs or toxic compounds were found. Mr. Nastri indicated we are going to continue to monitor the incident and have also applied for reimbursement for our expenses associated with this response.

Board Member Kracov commented that this is a concerning situation and warning of idling ship involvement and the unfortunate consequences of the backlog at the ports that impact the air quality.

19. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.
20. **Next Meeting Date:** The next regular Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Attachments

1. Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for April 23, 2021
2. Special Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for April 30, 2021



South Coast Air Quality Management District



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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health
Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association
Angela Garcia, Department of Toxic Substance Control
Kareem Gongora, San Bernardino County Planning Commission
Ana Gonzalez, Center for Community Action and Environmental Service
Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles
Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member
David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
Rafael Yanez, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)
Council Member Ben Benoit, Board Member
Elizabeth Alcantar, City of Cudahy
Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm
Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

OTHERS PRESENT:

Harvey Eder
Brad Anderson
Moses Huerta
Gracie Torres

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Philip Crabbe III, Public Affairs Manager
Daphne Hsu, Senior Deputy District Counsel
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley, Senior Public Affairs Manager
Julie Franco, Senior Public Information Specialist
Alicia Lizarraga, Senior Public Information Specialist
Jeanette N. Short, Senior Public Information Specialist
Alejandra Vega, Senior Public Information Specialist
Lindsay McElwain, Senior Administrative Secretary
Aisha Reyes, Senior Administrative Secretary
Brandee Keith, Secretary
Danietra Brown, Career Development Intern

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Supervisor Janice Rutherford called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. Ms. Jeanette Short read the housekeeping items and then took roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of February 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Rutherford called for the approval of the February 26, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. David McNeill moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Lawrence Beeson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Mr. Philip Crabbe introduced four new members of EJAG: Ms. Elizabeth Alcantar, Ms. Angela Garcia, Mr. Kareen Gongora, and Ms. Ana Gonzalez.

Mr. Crabbe stated there were three action items from the February 26, 2021 meeting:

- To provide a link of the October 23, 2020 EJAG meeting to Ms. Rhetta Alexander. The link was provided to all EJAG members on April 15.
- To provide Mr. Rafael Yanez with the average response time to complaints. Staff is awaiting confirmation from the Compliance Department.
- Staff to meet with Ms. Mary Figueroa regarding the Environmental Justice Conference and Inter-Agency Task Force. Staff is working with Ms. Figueroa to coordinate the meeting.

Mr. Yanez expressed continued concern with the lack of follow-up by South Coast AQMD when complaints are submitted. Supervisor Rutherford explained staff has been discussing the matter and will get additional information to bring back to members of EJAG when available.

Mr. Gongora asked for clarification on the protocol to add an item on the agenda. Mr. Crabbe stated after staff is notified it may take approximately a week to verify a topic for the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. McNeill requested that an update on the RECLAIM program phase out be added on the agenda for a future EJAG meeting.

Ms. Martinez-Watson also expressed concern with the response time from South Coast AQMD on submitted complaints.

Agenda Item #4: Update on AB 617 Programs for 2021

Ms. Gina Triviso presented an update on AB 617 programs for 2021.

Mr. Yanez expressed concern that the East LA/Boyle Heights/West Commerce Community Steering Committee (CSC) has the lowest targeted emissions reduction despite being one of the most impacted in terms of cancer risk. He also expressed concern about lower participation rates and suggested periodic action updates for individual AB 617 communities, including budget information and allocation of funds.

Ms. Monique Hernandez asked if there was a standardized approach to tracking and providing progress reports. Mr. Dan Garcia, Planning and Rules Manager, enumerated some tools that could be accessed to find updates on Community Air Monitoring Plans (CAMPs) and Community Emissions Reductions Plans (CERPs). He confirmed there would be annual status reports filed for each community and that CARB was building a community information dashboard accessible to the public.

Dr. Jill Johnson reminded the group that AB 617 includes non-criteria air pollutants not already regulated by the Clean Air Act. She suggested that easier-to-understand air monitoring analysis using more inclusive/accessible language be provided with the emissions data. She advised the committee to consider how the lessons learned about the process from the first few communities could be replicated among new and future communities.

Ms. Kelly Gamino, Program Supervisor, stated the team has been working to include more inclusive language as well as educate the public on air toxics data. Mr. Garcia stated the AB 617 team did take into consideration past lessons learned in planning to address the specific needs of new and future communities.

Ms. Gonzales stated the San Bernardino/Muscoy community felt government elected officials were not responsive to their needs and asked how the South Coast AQMD would reassure community members about project implementation. She also asked how South Coast AQMD was reaching out to community members, especially those without internet access.

Ms. Triviso stated the team were involved in constant communication with the community, including online communication, phone and newsletter communication. She felt the San Bernardino/Muscoy CSC was very active and involved in their community's planning and implementation. Ms. Gamino added staff was working to implement the new Zoom Pool features for outreach and would send a summary of the AB 617 Annual Report to CSC members to track project implementation.

Mr. Yanez mentioned the importance of ensuring pandemic conditions did not negatively impact work on AB 617 programs and reiterated the importance of using standardized language in reporting. He also expressed concern that updates via annual report might not be sufficient and

suggested updates at each quarterly meeting would be more useful as well as allow CSC members better opportunity to act on issues.

Agenda Item #6: Overview on Why Healthy Air Matters Program

Ms. Short asked the Chair to take Agenda Item #6 out of order due to time constraints on the presenter. Supervisor Rutherford called for the item as requested. Ms. Monika Kim provided an overview on the Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) program.

Mr. Yanez, Mr. Gongora, and Mr. Donald Smith each asked how members could get involved with bringing the program to their school districts. Ms. Kim stated that interested parties could contact her directly to discuss school involvement and request outreach to specific classrooms.

Mr. Humberto Lugo asked if the program was available to students in the Coachella Valley and if it had been presented to the Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV) CSC. Supervisor Rutherford stated it was available throughout the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction and Mr. Garcia confirmed it had been presented to the ECV CSC. Ms. Lisa Tanaka O'Malley also confirmed program staff had been in contact with Coachella schools.

Mr. Eder stated he felt there was opportunity to reach millions of students with the WHAM program. Referring to AB 617 programs, Mr. Eder felt the stated reduction in health impacts and premature deaths were underestimated.

Agenda Item #5: Update on South Coast AQMD Incentive Programs

Ms. Vicki White presented an update on South Coast AQMD incentive programs.

Mr. Gongora requested in the future that program materials be presented in a more easily navigable format.

Mr. Yanez expressed concern of funding nearly \$40 million that was provided for Tier 3 equipment, when Tier 4 final equipment offered a 90% NOx and PM reduction. He suggested incentive funding be offered to Tier 4 final equipment. Ms. White stated that some forms of equipment were not available in Tier 4, in which case the fleet might propose a Tier 3 alternative. Mr. Yanez suggested that better use could be made of the funds by focusing on alternative Tier 4 solutions.

Mr. Manuel Arredondo expressed concern that the electric school buses run out of power during the day and suggested equipment like hydrogen fuel cell buses be implemented in large rural areas such as the Coachella Valley. Ms. White stated staff continually worked with the school districts to implement and adapt the technology best suited to their specific needs.

Dr. Beeson asked if there was record of what happens to high-emitting vehicles after it has been replaced via an incentive program. Ms. White confirmed all programs require that old equipment is scrapped or dismantled.

Mr. Eder expressed interest in the burden of emissions related to the Volkswagen settlement, and how it translated to morbidity, mortality, pain and suffering.

Agenda Item #7: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update

This item was tabled due to time constraints.

Agenda Item #8: Member Updates

Mr. Danny Morales asked whether staff had information regarding the high-speed rail in Colton and how members could become involved with it.

Action Item: Staff to provide an update on the high-speed rail to members of EJAG via email.

Dr. Afif El-Hasan announced the latest American Lung Association State of the Air Report had been published and was currently available on the American Lung Association website.

Agenda Item #9 - Other Business

Mr. Gongora moved to schedule a special meeting to discuss the Proposed Rule 2305 – Warehouse Indirect Source Rule and provide a recommendation to the Governing Board. Mr. Morales seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Staff to reach out to Chair Delgado to determine availability and notify EJAG members regarding the date of the special meeting.

Agenda Item #10- Public Comment

Mr. Moses Huerta shared that the Air Force would be moving away chromium coatings and had determined a cleaner alternative. He also thanked members for advocating for a special meeting to discuss the Warehouse ISR.

Ms. Gracie Torres of the Western Municipal Water District welcomed new members of the EJAG and thanked Mr. Gongora and Ms. Gonzalez for advocating for a special meeting to discuss the Warehouse ISR.

Ms. Alexander asked for clarification whether there would be a recommendation made on Proposed Rule 2305 and if the members would be able to review that recommendation prior to submittal to the Governing Board. Mr. Gongora stated this was his intent regarding the special meeting.

Mr. Yanez requested a link to the proposed legislation to review prior to the special meeting.

Action Item: Staff to provide link to website of Proposed Rule 2305 to members prior to the special meeting.

Mr. Eder expressed concern over the use of natural gas and stated his opinion that natural gas implementation did not go far enough to meet environmental concerns.

Agenda Item #11: Next Meeting Date

The next regular EJAG meeting is on Friday, July 23, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), Chair (Board Member)
Elizabeth Alcantar, City of Cudahy
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health
Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm
Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association
Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College
Angela Garcia, Department of Toxic Substance Control
Kareem Gongora, San Bernardino County Planning Commission
Ana Gonzalez, Center for Community Action and Environmental Service
Dr. Monique Hernandez David McNeill, California State University, Los Angeles
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club
Rafael Yanez, Community Member

Members Absent:

Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Council Member Ben Benoit, Board Member
Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member

South Coast AQMD Staff:

Derrick Alatorre, Chair, DEO/Public Advisor, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media
Daphne Hsu, Senior Deputy District Counsel, Legal
Dr. Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources
Julie Franco, Senior Public Information Specialist, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media
Alicia Lizarraga, Senior Public Information Specialist, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media
Brandee Keith, Secretary, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media

Agenda Item #1: Call To Order/Opening Remarks

Senator Vanessa Delgado called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., Ms. Julie Franco read the housekeeping remarks and took the roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Presentation on Warehouse Indirect Source Rule

Dr. Sarah Rees delivered a presentation on the proposed Rule 2305 (PR 2305).

Mr. Kareem Gongora asked what projects would be funded by fees generated from PR 2305. Dr. Rees explained that the intention is for fees to be spent in the communities that they are generated in and on projects that reduce emissions. The solicitation for spending the fees will go through the public process and taken to the Governing Board.

Dr. Lawrence Beeson asked if there had been estimated health cost benefits determined. Dr. Rees summarized the estimated costs saved in premature deaths, lost workdays, and asthma attacks.

Mr. Rafael Yanez suggested the Governing Board consider relying less on self-reporting by facilities and consider installing monitoring stations.

Ms. Angela Garcia asked how warehouses are defined. Dr. Rees explained the PR 2305 defines facilities of 100,000 square feet that houses warehousing activities as “warehouses.” Ms. Garcia also asked how South Coast AQMD was able to exercise authority over mobile sources and whether they could enforce PR 2305. Dr. Rees stated South Coast AQMD utilized indirect source authority and verified enforcement was possible.

Mr. David McNeill asked what assurances would be in place to be certain mitigation funds would be invested in the affected communities. Dr. Rees explained that PR 2305 was developed with feedback from communities with the same concerns and crafted specifically to ensure fees would remain in the community surrounding the warehouse.

Mr. Kerry Doi inquired about the technology available for charging and storage for zero-emission trucks, and if incentives would be offered to warehouses for installing electric vehicle chargers. Dr. Rees noted that charging infrastructure is a large focus to facilitate implementation of zero-emission vehicle adoption.

Ms. Suzanne Bilodeau asked whether a business utilizing facilities for retail purposes would still be distinguished as a warehouse. Dr. Rees explained that it would still be designated as a warehouse, but a reduced amount of truck traffic could reduce the burden for compliance with the rule, and at a certain level, traffic could be minor enough to exempt a facility.

Mr. Yanez asked if there were clean idle truck zones established as part of the rule. Dr. Rees stated there were no clean idle provisions, but other clean truck implementations were included.

Mr. Gongora asked if proposals from other jurisdictions were considered in the crafting of the rule. Dr. Rees replied that other proposals were considered as potential models, but South Coast AQMD’s rule had been designed with the specific circumstances of the South Coast jurisdiction in mind. Mr. Gongora also asked if there were considerations made regarding warehouses established near schools. Dr. Rees explained that these considerations raised legal issues and they are not incorporated.

Dr. Afif El-Hasan asked if PR 2305 offered an offset that could assist schools in communities where the warehouses are located. Dr. Rees stated there is no current component in the rule.

Ms. Rhetta Alexander asked if the PR 2305 involved a phase-out plan for fossil fuel equipment. Dr. Rees stated that South Coast AQMD would monitor the evolution of technology and amend the rule as appropriate for further phase-out of fossil fuel vehicles.

Mr. Yanez asked whether the committee had discussed implementing the clean idle truck provision, and why the rule is focused on future technology rather than current technologies. Dr. Rees explained that clean idle provisions had not been proposed when crafting the rule, and the rule allows incentive for implementation of clean and zero-emission technologies.

Mr. Mark Abramowitz of Community Environmental Services expressed concern at the inclusion of air filtration technology as a mitigation project and suggested the allowance for filtration devices be removed from the Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions (WAIRE) Program menu.

Mr. Harvey Eder of the Public Solar Power Coalition expressed concern over the approval of natural gas technologies in the rule and encouraged the Board to press the use of solar technologies.

Ms. Gracie Torres of Western Municipal Water District's Board of Directors supported the removal of provisions for air filtration equipment as part of the WAIRE menu.

Ms. Mary Figueroa emphasized the importance of EJAG members to advocate on behalf of the highly impacted Inland Empire communities.

Mr. Gongora asked what efforts would be made to verify warehouse reporting. Dr. Rees stated there would be ongoing compliance verifications and enforcement actions would be taken if compliance is not met. Mr Gongora also voiced support of removing air filtration systems as an implementation measure on the WAIRE menu.

Mr. Gongora motioned EJAG members to present a letter officially recommending the Governing Board to approve the highest stringency of PR 2305, ensure there are no delays, provide equity in the distribution of funds among the impacted neighborhoods, and remove air filtration systems as an implementation option on the WAIRE menu.

Mr. Yanez proposed an amendment to the motion to also implement a clean truck idling rule and to install a monitoring point to provide an accurate representation of emissions levels.

Dr. Rees stated that it would be difficult to amend the rule regarding issues which had not been studied by the California Environmental Quality Act such as the clean truck idling rule, and to do so would delay implementation. Mr. Alatorre reminded members the rule could be amended after implementation if necessary, and suggested Mr. Yanez's concerns be tabled until the EJAG reviews updates on the rule implementation.

Mr. McNeill proposed an amendment to the motion to have three members of the EJAG draft the letter.

Ms. Alexander suggested the letter specify that EJAG members would revisit the rule to address future concerns to avoid any delays in the rule implementation.

Ms. Ana Gonzalez offered a draft letter to use as a template and volunteered to help write the letter.

Ms. Figueroa emphasized the importance of documenting Mr. Yanez's concerns about the clean idle truck provision to ascertain future EJAG members can address it in the future.

Mr. Gongora also volunteered to write the letter and asked if Rule 1306 was embedded in PR 2305. Dr. Rees confirmed it was.

Ms. Figueroa and Mr. Yanez also volunteered to help write the letter.

Mr. Gongora accepted the amendment to add a fourth person to help write the letter. Dr. Beeson seconded the motion.

The motion to draft a letter addressing Mr. Gongora's four points, as well as Mr. Yanez's concerns for future revisitation, and the nomination of the four authors to write the letter, was put to a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: South Coast AQMD staff to connect the authors of the letter via email.

Adjournment

Senator Delgado adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m.