BOARD MEETING DATE: JUNE 3, 2022

AGENDA NO. 2

MINUTES: Governing Board Monthly Meeting

SYNOPSIS: Attached are the Minutes of the May 6, 2022 Board Meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Approve Minutes of the May 6, 2022 Board Meeting.

Faye Thomas
Clerk of the Boards

FT:cmw
FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022

Notice having been duly given, the regular meeting of the South Coast Air Quality Management District Board was conducted at the Dr. William A. Burke Auditorium at the South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, California and remotely via videoconferencing and telephone. Members present:

Mayor Ben J. Benoit, Chair
Cities of Riverside County

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), Vice Chair
Senate Rules Committee Appointee

Mayor Michael A. Cacciotti
Cities of Los Angeles County – Eastern Region

Supervisor Andrew Do
County of Orange

Gideon Kracov
Governor’s Appointee

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
County of Los Angeles

Mayor Larry McCallon
Cities of San Bernardino County

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
County of Riverside

Council Member Nithya Raman
City of Los Angeles

Mayor Carlos Rodriguez
Cities of Orange County

Supervisor Janice Rutherford
County of San Bernardino

Members absent:

Veronica Padilla-Campos
Speaker of the Assembly Appointee

Vice Mayor Rex Richardson
Cities of Los Angeles County – Western Region
CALL TO ORDER: Chair Benoit called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Supervisor Rutherford
- Roll Call

For additional details of the Governing Board Meeting, please refer to the Webcast at: Live Webcast (aqmd.gov)

- Opening Comments

  Chair Benoit recognized and bid farewell to Dr. Matt Miyasato, Chief Technologist/Deputy Executive Officer of Science & Technology Advancement, who is leaving the South Coast AQMD after 20 years of service for another position.

  Dr. Miyasato commented on the many accomplishments and achievements in technology advancement over the last 20 years that were made possible by support of the Board and expressed appreciation to staff for their leadership and work to clean the air.

  Chair Benoit announced that on May 5th the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) presented the Volvo LIGHTS (Low Impact Green Heavy Transport Solutions) project the award for “Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability” during its 2022 Regional Conference and General Assembly in Palm Desert. He expressed how honored he was to accept the award on behalf of the South Coast AQMD. Chair Benoit also encouraged in-person attendees to participate in the technology showcase being held today in the parking lot that is featuring the latest clean vehicles, equipment, and monitoring technology.

  Mayor McCallon announced that the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) received a 2022 Sustainability Award from SCAG for transitioning their locomotives to renewable energy.

  Mayor Cacciotti expressed appreciation to staff for their response to expeditiously replace an air sampler that residents in Glendora were complaining about.

  Supervisor Kuehl announced that Los Angeles County was also the recipient of a 2022 Sustainability Award from SCAG for initiating the largest Community Choice Aggregation program in the state, the Clean Power Alliance.
Mr. Nastri highlighted that today’s technology showcase provided an opportunity for the Board to see projects they have supported over the years. He announced that the Preliminary Draft 2022 AQMP was released today for a 45-day public comment period. He also noted that this is the first AQMP that dedicated a chapter to Environmental Justice and that staff is working on Briefing Papers to provide additional information on key topics. Regional public workshops will be held later this month, and the public hearing is scheduled for October 7, 2022. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 19:05.

Mr. Nastri also announced that the May Legislative Committee and Administrative Committee meetings would be held on Thursday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., respectively at the Mission Inn Hotel & Spa prior to the Board Retreat.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – (Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3)

Misch Anderson, Pasadena resident, expressed frustration that there has been no response from South Coast AQMD staff regarding her application that was submitted almost one year ago requesting an e-bike as a replacement option for the Replace Your Ride voucher. She noted that Senate Bill 400 was approved two years ago and allows e-bikes as mobility options in the Clean Cars 4 All Program. She urged that South Coast AQMD offer e-bikes as a replacement option in the Replace Your Ride program. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 21:50.

Mr. Nastri apologized to Ms. Anderson and gave her the assurance that staff would be in contact with her. Mr. Nastri explained that staff must follow CARB program guidelines for dispersion of grant incentives and the guidance on e-bikes has not yet been established. Staff will follow up with CARB on this issue.

Rebecca Overmyer-Velasquez, Clean Air Coalition of North Whittier and Avocado Heights, expressed concerns about Quemetco’s pending permit application to increase its throughput, and the facility’s continued exceedances of toxic emissions. She emphasized the responsibility of government to provide clean air and water and urged the Board to protect public health and deny the permit application. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 26:55.

Ranji George, a member of the public, emphasized the importance of hydrogen in cleaning the air and meeting climate change challenges. He highlighted the benefits of using hydrogen fuel cells over lithium-ion batteries, noting the environmental concerns with lithium-ion batteries.

Darcy Stinson, a member of the public, expressed frustration with the response time for South Coast AQMD inspectors to be deployed in the field to respond to complaints about the Chiquita Canyon landfill. He expressed disagreement with a letter
from South Coast AQMD’s outside counsel regarding his use of profanity when speaking to South Coast AQMD staff. Chair Benoit asked Mr. Stinson to be respectful of staff and thanked him for addressing the Board respectfully.

Adriana Quinones, Avocado Heights resident, expressed concerns for the health and lives of loved ones and community members that live in communities near Quemetco. She emphasized the need for joint community meetings with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, South Coast AQMD and other appropriate agencies to hear the concerns of residents. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 36:59.

Written Comment Letter Submitted Regarding Statements made at the April 1, 2022 Governing Board meeting about the Lack of Petroleum Refinery Accountability
One letter signed by the following organizations: Earthjustice, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice and Communities for a Better Environment

CONSENT AND BOARD CALENDAR

Items 1 through 4 -- Action Items/No Fiscal Impact
1. Comply with AB 361 Requirements to Allow South Coast AQMD Board and South Coast AQMD Brown Act Committees to Continue to Meet Remotely
2. Amend Section 30.4 of South Coast AQMD's Administrative Code
3. Approve Minutes of April 1, 2022 Board Meeting
4. Set Public Hearing June 3, 2022 to Consider Adoption of and/or Amendments to South Coast AQMD Rules and Regulations:
   - Determine That Proposed Rule 403.2 – Fugitive Dust from Large Roadway Projects, Is Exempt from CEQA; and Adopt Rule 403.2

Items 5 through 13 -- Budget/Fiscal Impact
5. Recognize Revenue, Execute Contracts for Cleaner Freight California and Reimburse General Fund
6. Release RFP, Issue RFQs and Execute Purchase Orders and Contracts to Purchase and Deploy Portable Air Cleaners at Wildfire Smoke Clean Air Centers
7. School Air Filtration Program for Private Schools and Daycare Facilities in AB 617 Communities Using CARB Supplemental Environmental Project Funds
8. Transfer Funds Between Major Objects and Execute Purchase Orders for AQ-SPEC Program

9. Approve Compensation Adjustments for Board Member Assistants and Board Member Consultants for FY 2022-23

10. Appropriate Funds and Amend Contract with Strumwasser & Woocher, LLP to Provide Representation and Advice to South Coast AQMD Hearing Board

11. Appoint Members to South Coast AQMD Hearing Board

12. Authorize Purchase of OnBase Software Support

13. Issue New Solicitations and Approve Substitute Award Recipient as Approved by MSRC

**Item 14 -- Staff Presentation/Board Discussion**

14. Demonstration of Major Enhancements to South Coast AQMD Mobile App *(Presentation in Lieu of Board Letter)*

  NO ACTION REQUIRED

**Items 15 through 20 – Information Only/Receive and File**

15. Legislative, Public Affairs and Media Report

16. Hearing Board Report

17. Civil Filings and Civil Penalties Report

18. Lead Agency Projects and Environmental Documents Received

19. Rule and Control Measure Forecast

**Items 21 through 27 -- Reports for Committees and CARB**

21. Administrative Committee

22. Legislative Committee

23. Mobile Source Committee

24. Stationary Source Committee

25. Technology Committee

26. Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee

27. California Air Resources Board Monthly Report

28. **Items Deferred from Consent Calendar**

   Agenda Item Nos. 2 and 14 were pulled for comment and discussion.

   Supervisor Rutherford noted that she is in support of SB 1325 (Borgeas) to allow portable equipment to be operated during emergency events and would be voting “no” to the Legislative Committee’s recommended action in Item No 22 opposing the legislation.

   **Public comment was opened for Agenda Item Nos. 1, 3 through 13 and 15 through 27.**

   Scott Fredrickson, Caltrans
   Shaila Chowdhury, Caltrans

   Thanked South Coast AQMD staff for ongoing engagement to address their concerns with Proposed Rule 403.2. Expressed concern that the proposed rule only applies to Caltrans roadways, and that provisions regarding the prohibition buffer for aggregate crushing and grinding to recycle materials will require that materials usually stockpiled onsite be transported offsite for recycling and later returned to the project site, which will have the unintended consequence of increasing GHG emissions. Urged the Board to postpone rulemaking to allow time for Caltrans and South Coast AQMD staff to work on making improvements to construction practices and evaluate the outcomes of Caltrans’ enhanced dust control pilot project that incorporates project specifications, which implements provisions of Proposed Rule 403.2 on select roadway projects. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 43:49.
Michael Lewis, Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition, thanked staff for changes that have been made to the proposed rule since the original July 2021 draft. He expressed concern about the prohibition buffer for aggregate recycling that will result in increased pollution from construction materials being transported to and from project sites. He urged postponing rulemaking to allow staff and stakeholders to continue exploring options for mitigation measures. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 49:54.

Chair Benoit emphasized the importance for the rule to address concerns regarding grinding operations being taken offsite into neighborhoods near homes. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 52:32.

Ian MacMillan, ADEO/Planning, Rule Development & Implementation commented that there was a revised version of the proposed rule and summarized the revisions. Chair Benoit asked if there were measures that could be implemented when a project is near residential neighborhoods that can more effectively control fugitive dust emissions to address the issues raised by Caltrans while minimizing impacts to residential neighborhoods. Mr. MacMillan responded that staff can look into additional dust measures. Mr. Nastri suggested that we keep Proposed Rule 403.2 on schedule for a June Public Hearing. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 54:20.

Mayor Cacciotti asked if there were other county highways that would be affected. Mr. MacMillan commented that 100,000 vehicles per day was a good breakpoint for the largest roadways and captures freeways. Staff is using Caltrans’ classifications of freeways and expressways which will capture those roadways with 100,000 vehicles per day and will provide easier implementation because that is a set designation. Mr. MacMillan clarified that Rule 403 will address fugitive dust issues on other roadways. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 58:39.

Several Board Members recommended that staff move forward with the proposed rule for the public hearing in June and continue discussions with stakeholders to address their concerns. Chair Benoit recommended bringing the proposed rule back to the Stationary Source Committee for further discussion.

Disclosure:

Board Member Kracov noted that he has no financial interests in Agenda Item Nos. 6 and 7 but would like to identify for the record that he is a Board Member of CARB, which is involved in these items.
MOVED BY DELGADO, SECONDED BY CACCIOTTI, AGENDA ITEMS 1 AND 3 THROUGH 13 AND 15 THROUGH 27, APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED; AND TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 22-16, RECOGNIZING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM ON MARCH 4, 2020 AND THAT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONTINUES TO RECOMMEND MEASURES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING; AND AUTHORIZING FULLY OR PARTIALLY REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, AND SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT COMMITTEES SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT, FOR THE PERIOD MAY 6, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 5, 2022 PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE BROWN ACT; AND TO APPROVE THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION ON LEGISLATION AS SET FORTH BELOW, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Do, Kracov, Kuehl, McCallon (Except Item 22), Perez, Raman, Rodriguez and Rutherford (Except Item 22)

NOES: McCallon and Rutherford (Item 22)

ABSENT: Padilla-Campos and Richardson

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 1235 (Borgeas)</td>
<td>Oppose</td>
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<tr>
<td>All pollution: portable equipment: emergency events</td>
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</table>
ITEMS PULLED FOR COMMENT AND DISCUSSION (2 and 14)

2. Amend Section 30.4 of South Coast AQMD’s Administrative Code

Ranji George spoke in favor of setting term limits for the Chair of the Board.

Supervisor Kuehl expressed opposition to the proposal that limits the term of the Chair to two consecutive two-year terms. She stated that people are feeling we are in a state of flux and loss of stability, so it is important to ensure continuity with the Board’s leadership.

Chair Benoit noted that the intention of the proposal is to strike an appropriate balance so that the terms are not too long or too short.

Senator Delgado stated that the proposal to limit the term of the Chair is a healthy way to ensure an effective transition from one Chair to the next. She added that the Board has the discretion to revise the Administrative Code in the future if they find that term limits do not work.

In response to Chair Benoit’s inquiry about whether a future Board could amend Section 30.4 of the Administrative Code, Bayron Gilchrist, General Counsel responded in the affirmative. Mr. Gilchrist clarified that having two consecutive two-year terms would not exclude the Chair from serving as Vice Chair or serving as Chair for more than two non-continuous terms.

Supervisor Perez asked whether each term could be extended from two to three or four years. He emphasized the importance of having longer term limits and emphasized the need for consistency and institutional knowledge, noting that he would be voting “no” for the proposal. He stated that Chairman Burke was a good example of what a Chair can be without term limits.

Mr. Gilchrist clarified that it is the Health and Safety Code statute that limits each term to two years but there is no set cap on how many terms someone can serve as Chair.

Supervisor Rutherford stated that she is comfortable with the term limits as proposed, noting that it allows for a second two-year term which provides stability. She also added that stability comes from the authorities that appoint or elect the members to the Board. She emphasized the importance of having a rotation system because it creates an opportunity for Board Members that represent different areas and constituents to serve as Chair. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:11.

Council Member Raman stated that she is broadly supportive of term limits but is open to discussing increasing the number of consecutive two-year terms. She
added that internal training processes do not happen as effectively when there are no term limits. Term limits encourage persons in leadership to prepare someone else to manage the Board and “pass the baton.”

MOVED BY MCCALLON, SECONDED BY CACCIOTTI, AGENDA ITEM 2 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Do, Kracov, McCallon, Raman, Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: Kuehl and Perez

ABSENT: Padilla-Campos and Richardson

14. Demonstration of Major Enhancements to South Coast AQMD Mobile App (Presentation in Lieu of Board Letter)

Ron Moskowitz, Chief Information Officer, provided a live demonstration to highlight major enhancements to the South Coast AQMD mobile app.

Chair Benoit commented on the ease and convenience of having the ability to readily access information regarding facilities in the communities and reporting complaints via the app. He added that the mobile app is an important tool for all communities. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:25.

In response to Board Member Kracov’s inquiry regarding outreach efforts, Mr. Moskowitz responded that efforts are underway to market and inform the public about the enhancements.

Senator Delgado inquired about outreach efforts for AB 617 communities and providing demonstrations at scheduled community meetings.

Mr. Nastri responded that AB 617 communities have been asking for an easier way to file a complaint and get access to information about their communities.

Al Sattler, a member of the public, requested that the app include a feature that provides emergency notifications with a loud, audible alarm similar to Amber Alerts in the event hazardous chemicals are released. He expressed gratitude for the community and fenceline air monitoring system.

Darcy Stinson asked whether the app has the capability for South Coast AQMD inspectors to communicate directly with persons filing complaints, provide
complainants with updates and track response times. He expressed concerns about delayed response times he has experienced when filing complaints about the Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

Mr. Nastri explained that South Coast AQMD staff coordinates emergency responses and alerts through local responders responsible for primary incident command. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:34.

**NO ACTION REQUIRED**

(Mayor Rodriguez left the meeting.)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

29. Determine That Proposed Amendments to Rule 1147 – NOx Reductions from Miscellaneous Sources, Are Exempt from CEQA; and Amend Rule 1147

Michael Krause, Asst. DEO/Planning, Rule Development & Implementation, gave the staff presentation on Item No. 29.

The public hearing was opened, and there being no requests to speak, the public hearing was closed.

MOVED BY CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY KRACOV, AGENDA ITEM NO. 29 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 22-17 DETERMINING THAT PROPOSED AMENDED RULE 1147 – NOx REDUCTIONS FROM MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF CEQA; AND AMENDING RULE 1147 – NOx REDUCTIONS FROM MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

**AYES:** Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Do, Kracov, Kuehl, McCallon, Perez, Raman, and Rutherford

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Padilla-Campos, Richardson and Rodriguez
30. Determine That Proposed Amendments to Regulation III – Fees and Rule 1480 – Ambient Monitoring and Sampling of Metal Toxic Air Contaminants Are Exempt from CEQA; Amend Regulation III – Fees and Rule 1480 – Ambient Monitoring and Sampling of Metal Toxic Air Contaminants; and Adopt Executive Officer’s FY 2022-23 Proposed Goals and Priority Objectives, and Proposed Budget

Sujata Jain, DEO/Chief Financial Officer and Ian MacMillan, ADEO, Planning, Rule Development & Implementation, gave the staff presentation on Item No. 30.

Chair Benoit asked whether the vacancy rate is being monitored and tracked. Board Member Kracov emphasized the need to reduce the vacancy rate and that is a priority of the agency. Mr. Nastri responded that the vacancy rate is monitored weekly and will be provided in the weekly report to the Board and staff agrees that the vacancy rate needs to be reduced.

Mayor Cacciotti inquired about the changes in the fund balance in FYs 2024-25 and 2025-26. Ms. Jain explained while maintaining a balanced budget there are additional unexpected expenditures for information technology and building infrastructure improvement projects that are built into the budget but still maintaining that our reserves are above 20 percent. In response to Chair Benoit’s inquiry regarding the status of the elevators in the headquarters building, Ms. Jain confirmed that the elevators have been upgraded. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:51.

Board member Kracov asked for an explanation and expectations for the Criteria and Toxics Reporting regulation. Mr. MacMillan explained that the Criteria and Toxics Reporting program is part of AB 617 and will require many more facilities to report emissions and will be implemented in phases. Board Member Kracov commented that this is a significant change in emissions reporting. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:55.

The public hearing was opened, and the following individuals addressed the Board on Item 30.

Al Sattler expressed concerns that five air quality inspector positions were being deleted. He questioned why rule amendments were incorporated into the budget presentation.

Adrian Martinez, Earthjustice, emphasized the need to ensure that the Planning, Rule Development & Implementation department is adequately staffed to address rulemaking for a wide range of sources. He noted that rules from the 2016 AQMP still need to be implemented and there will be proposed rules based on the control measures in the 2022 AQMP. He suggested that the agency consider other revenue sources so that core work can be completed.
Mr. Nastri explained that some of the changes reflect how the agency is being more strategic in positions in the workforce and that there will be a mid-year budget with additional positions. In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Nastri confirmed that the five inspector positions were not yet filled. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 2:01.

There being no further testimony on this item, the public hearing was closed.

(Supervisor Rutherford left the meeting)

MOVED BY CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY MCCALLON, TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 30 AS RECOMMENDED AND SET FORTH BELOW:


2) APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S PROPOSED GOALS AND PRIORITY OBJECTIVES, AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2022-23;

3) REMOVE FROM RESERVES AND DESIGNATIONS ALL AMOUNTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FY 2021-22 BUDGET;

4) APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE MAJOR OBJECTS FOR FY 2022-23 FOR A TOTAL OF $189,162,810;

5) APPROVE REVENUES FOR FY 2022-23 OF $189,162,810;

6) APPROVE THE ADDITION OF 11 NET AUTHORIZED/FUNDED POSITIONS AS DETAILED IN THE FY 2022-23 BUDGET;

AND

7) APPROVE A PROJECTED JUNE 30, 2023 FUND BALANCE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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1 The fund balance classifications of Committed, Nonsendable, Assigned, and Unassigned are established by the Government Accounting Standards Board 54.
APPROVED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Do, Kracov, Kuehl, McCallon, Perez, Raman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Padilla-Campos, Richardson, Rodriguez and Rutherford

CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to closed session at 11:05 a.m., pursuant to Government Code sections:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

- 54956.9(a) and 54956.9(d)(1) to confer with its counsel regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which the South Coast AQMD is a party. The action is:

  CalPortland Company v. South Coast Air Quality Management District; Governing Board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District; and Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, and Does 1-100, San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIV DS 1925894.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – INITIATING LITIGATION

- 54956.9(a) and 54956.9(d)(4) to consider initiation of litigation (one case).

Following closed session, Mr. Gilchrist announced that a report of any reportable actions taken in closed session will be filed with the Clerk of the Board’s office and made available to the public upon request.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Gilchrist at 12 p.m.

The foregoing is a true statement of the proceedings held by the South Coast Air Quality Management District Board on May 6, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Thomas
Clerk of the Boards

Date Minutes Approved: _________________________

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Ben J. Benoit, Chair

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ACRONYMS

AQ-SPEC = Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center
AQMP = Air Quality Management Plan
CARB = California Air Resources Board
CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act
FY = Fiscal Year
MSRC = Mobile Source (Air Pollution Reduction) Review Committee
NOx = Oxides of Nitrogen
PM = Particulate Matter
RECLAIM = Regional Clean Air Incentives Market
RFP = Request for Proposals
RFQ = Request for Quotations
U.S. EPA = United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC = Volatile Organic Compound