

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 1, 2023

AGENDA NO. 21

REPORT: Technology Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Technology Committee held a hybrid meeting on Friday, November 17, 2023. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Carlos Rodriguez, Chair
Technology Committee

AK:psc

Committee Members

Present: Councilmember Carlos Rodriguez, Committee Chair
Supervisor Curt Hagman
Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson
Mayor Larry McCallon
Board Member Veronica Padilla-Campos

Absent: Supervisor Andrew Do

Call to Order

Committee Chair Carlos Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

For additional details of the Technology Committee Meeting, please refer to the [Webcast](#)

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Establish Special Revenue Fund, Recognize Revenue, Execute Contracts and Reimburse General Fund to Demonstrate Fuel Cell Locomotive and Deploy Heavy-Duty Truck Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

South Coast AQMD has been awarded up to \$76,250,003 from California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA) Port and Freight Infrastructure Program to demonstrate a short line hydrogen fuel cell locomotive and deploy direct current fast

chargers and hydrogen refueling dispensers. South Coast AQMD has also been allocated \$500,000 through the DOE through a FY 23 Congressional Direct Spending Request for the project. These actions are to: 1) establish the CalSTA Special Revenue Fund (89) and recognize, upon receipt, revenue up to \$76,250,003 from CalSTA and up to \$500,000 from DOE into Fund (89); 2) execute contracts with Wabtec Corporation for up to \$34,188,480 from CalSTA Special Revenue Fund (89) and Prologis Mobility LLC for up to \$38,930,570 from CalSTA Special Revenue Fund (89) and up to \$11,679,171 from MSRC Fund (23); and 3) reimburse the General Fund up to \$3,630,953 from CalSTA Special Revenue Fund (89) to administer these projects.

Mayor McCallon and Supervisor Hagman commented that they do not have a financial interest but are required to identify for the record that Mayor McCallon is the Chair and Supervisor Hagman is a member of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Committee, which is involved in this item.

Mayor McCallon inquired if staff plans to coordinate with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to deploy the Fuel Cell Locomotive on regular rail lines. Mei Wang, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Technology Advancement, responded that Wabtec had initiated the discussions with FRA and that South Coast AQMD, Wabtec and the Ports regularly meet to discuss approval plans and permitting. Aaron Katzenstein, Deputy Executive Officer/Technology Advancement, also noted that in a recent visit to Washington D.C., staff met with FRA about this project. For additional details please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 11:25.

Mayor Lock Dawson inquired about the timeline for the completion of the fueling stations. Ms. Wang responded that all the charging and refueling stations will be commissioned and operated in 2025.

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, commented that hydrogen has been against the law in the State of CA for over 40 years. He mentioned that the energy sources need to be 100 percent renewable and solar. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 13:55.

Committee Chair Rodriguez inquired whether modeling has been performed to show the emissions reduction achieved through hydrogen fuel cell locomotive and Prologis charging and fueling infrastructure projects. Dr. Katzenstein stated that emission reductions have been estimated for the project, but he did not have the information readily available. He noted he could provide the information later and added that the Prologis Project could serve up to 2,000 zero-emission trucks initially and up to 16,000 trucks over time. Committee Chair Rodriguez asked that staff have the emission reductions for the project at the Board meeting. For additional details please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 14:60.

Mayor McCallon inquired about the number of sites that will be using linear generators. Dr. Katzenstein stated that all the sites will be using linear generators for backup power to provide resiliency when the grid goes down.

Committee Chair Rodriguez inquired about the implications of these projects for the Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (ISR). Dr. Katzenstein mentioned that part of the Warehouse ISR compliance option is receiving points for zero-emissions truck miles traveled to warehouses. Currently, there is a limitation for zero-emission trucks due to the lack of charging and refueling infrastructure, and this project should facilitate use of more zero-emission trucks to warehouses.

Committee Chair Rodriguez stated it would be good to look for additional Federal and State funds to incentivize zero-emission trucks. Dr. Katzenstein agreed and noted that staff will continue to seek more funding opportunities.

Moved by Lock Dawson; seconded by Rodriguez; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Hagman, Lock Dawson, McCallon, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez
Noes: None
Absent: Do

2. Issue Program Announcement and Execute Agreements for Zero Emission Infrastructure Projects

Zero-emission infrastructure for medium- and heavy-duty trucks is critical to support the transition to zero emission technologies. These actions are to: (1) Issue a Program Announcement to solicit applications for eligible infrastructure projects to support zero-emission medium and heavy-duty vehicles and equipment in the South Coast Air Basin, and (2) execute agreements for eligible projects based on the results of the Program Announcement. Funding will be provided by the Carl Moyer Program Fund (32), AB 617 Community Air Protection Program Fund (77) and other funding sources as they become available.

Board Member Padilla-Campos inquired about the division of funds between Carl Moyer and AB 617 and when the projects must be completed. Dr. Katzenstein explained that the division of funds is not known, but there will be AB 617 funds available for projects located in those communities. The Carl Moyer funds mentioned in the action are from a prior year allocation (Year 22) with a tight liquidation deadline. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 25:37.

Committee Chair Rodriguez asked about the outreach plan for this solicitation, clarification on the \$100 million in the presentation, and whether these funds will be applicable for vehicle grants. Dr. Katzenstein, explained that in addition to the normal postings, staff are aware of the interested parties and will reach out to these parties directly.

Mr. Eder commented on equity policies and a funding set aside for AB 617 communities. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 28.33.

Moved by Padilla-Campos; seconded by Hagman; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Hagman, Lock Dawson, McCallon, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez
Noes: None
Absent: Do

OTHER MATTERS:

3. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

4. Public Comment Period

Mr. Eder expressed concerns regarding equity for infrastructure. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 39:45.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 15, 2023, at noon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Attachment

Attendance Record

ATTACHMENT

**SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING
Attendance Record – November 17, 2023**

Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson.....	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Supervisor Curt Hagman.....	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Mayor Larry McCallon.....	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Board Member Veronica Padilla-Campos	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Councilmember Carlos Rodriguez.....	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Tom Gross.....	Board Consultant (Lock Dawson)
Ron Ketcham.....	Board Consultant (Lock Dawson)
Fred Minassian.....	Board Consultant (Padilla-Campos)
Mark Taylor.....	Board Consultant (Rodriguez)
Mark Abramowitz.....	Public Member
Sarai Arellano.....	Public Member
Nikki Bassi.....	Public Member
William Carnegie.....	Public Member
Harvey Eder.....	Public Solar Power Coalition
Jasmine Beltran Elisa.....	Public Member
Molly HanFland.....	Public Member
Philip Moslener.....	Public Member
Christopher Murphy.....	Public Member
Pinakin Patel.....	T2M
Catherine Smith.....	Public Member
Xian-Liang Tian.....	Public Member
Greg Wright.....	WabTec
Debra Ashby.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Lara Brown.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Laurence Brown.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Penny Shaw Cedillo.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Phillip Crabbe III.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Scott Gallegos.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Bayron Gilchrist.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
De Groeneveld.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Alex Han.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Sheri Hanizavareh.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Lauren Henninger.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Gillian Kass.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Aaron Katzenstein.....	South Coast AQMD Staff

Angela Kim.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Tom Lee	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ron Moskowitz.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Susan Nakamura.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Wayne Natri.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Vasileios Papapostolou	South Coast AQMD Staff
Kristin Remy.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Walter Shen.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Mei Wang.....	South Coast AQMD Staff
Paul Wright.....	South Coast AQMD Staff