



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ben Benoit, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Wildomar and LGSBA Chairman  
V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor  
Janice Rutherford, Supervisor, Second District, San Bernardino County  
Felipe Aguirre  
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates  
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California  
John DeWitt, JE DeWitt, Inc.  
Bill LaMarr, California Small Business Alliance  
Rita Loof, RadTech International  
Eddie Marquez, Roofing Contractors Association  
David Rothbart, Los Angeles County Sanitation District

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Clark E. Parker, Sr., Senate Rules Committee Appointee  
Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Sierra Madre  
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy  
LaVaughn Daniel, DancoEN  
Cynthia Moran, Council Member, City of Chino Hills

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz, Board Member Consultant (*Lyou*)  
Ruthanne Taylor Berger, Board Member Consultant (*Benoit*)  
Andy Silva, San Bernardino County

### SCAQMD STAFF:

Fabian Wesson, Asst. Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor  
Jason Low, Ph.D., Asst. Deputy Executive Officer  
Nancy Feldman, Principal Deputy District Counsel  
Al Baez, Program Supervisor  
Vasileios Papapostolou, Program Supervisor  
Tom Lee, Senior Air Quality Engineer  
De Groeneveld, Sr. Information Technology Specialist  
Elaine-Joy Hills, AQ Inspector II  
Stacy Garcia, Secretary

### **Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

Chair Ben Benoit called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Approval of October 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items**

Chair Benoit called for approval of the October 12, 2018 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Follow Up/Action Items**

Ms. Fabian Wesson stated that Mr. David Rothbart had requested a presentation on Emission Reductions Credits (ERCs). Mr. Derrick Alatorre checked with SCAQMD staff and they are not ready to present on ERCs at this time.

In response to Supervisor V. Manuel Perez's request for a symposium in Eastern Riverside County, Ms. Wesson indicated that an AB 617 meeting will be scheduled in 2019.

Ms. Wesson stated that during the October meeting, Ms. Rita Loof requested a report on activities that SCAQMD staff is working on with California Air Resources Board (CARB), in regards to AB 617. Ms. Wesson responded that reports are given at each coordination meeting and Ms. Loof stated that she would like a recap. Ms. Wesson indicated that an AB 617 update will be given at a future meeting. Ms. Wesson further stated that the steering committees for the three AB 617 communities have been formed and each consists of approximately 30 people including residents, businesses, and community based organizations. The next AB 617 meeting is in East Los Angeles on November 28, 2018. The meeting information is posted on the AB 617 webpage (<http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/initiatives/environmental-justice/ab617-134>) and will provide LGSBA members the information via e-mail. Ms. Rita Loof asked how trade associations are going to be able to represent communities and sit on advisory committees. Ms. Wesson stated that SCAQMD staff can provide the list of the steering committee members.

*Action Item: Provide presentation on AB 617 updates.*

*Action Item: Provide list of steering committee members to LGSBA members.*

*Action Item: E-mail flyer for AB 617 meeting on November 28, 2018 to LGSBA members.*

Mr. Bill La Marr requested that AB 617 meeting materials and presentations be posted on our website at least 24 hours in advance of a scheduled meeting. Ms. Wesson stated that it is a work in progress and staff will speak to the coordinator about it.

Ms. Loof reiterated her request on an update on outreach activities entered into with the business industry on Rule 219.

*Action Item: Provide presentation on Rule 219 updates.*

Mr. Paul Avila previously inquired on SCAQMD's involvement in the Sriracha case to which Ms. Nancy Feldman gave details in that it was a public nuisance matter. Mr. Avila stated that he would like information about SCAQMD's policies regarding public nuisance. Ms. Feldman stated that there is no specific number of complaints and in order to find a public nuisance, a considerable number of people need to be impacted which can vary from case to case. Ms. Feldman offered to present on public nuisance policies in the future.

*Action Item: Provide presentation on public nuisance by Nancy Feldman.*

Supervisor Janice Rutherford requested for Agenda Item #5 to be moved up.

**Agenda Item #5 –Air Quality Sensing & Monitoring in Citizen Science**

Mr. Vasileios Papapostolou provided an overview on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funded Science to Achieve Results grant, entitled “Engage, Educate, and Empower California Communities on the Use and Applications of Low-Cost Air Monitoring Sensors.”

Ms. Loof inquired if SCAQMD gets involved with public assistance on sensor usage. Mr. Papapostolou stated that SCAQMD is involved with community groups, community members, CAPCOA agencies, and the Bay Area AQMD.

Mr. Avila inquired about all sensors that were considered. Mr. Papapostolou said that approximately 30 pollutant-type devices have been brought in and around 15 have been tested. Mr. Avila asked about the cost of a dome-type sensor. Mr. Papapostolou responded that they cost around \$200, but do have limitations.

Mr. John DeWitt asked if the sensor sites are listed publicly. Mr. Papapostolou responded that they are displayed on a map on the web. Mr. DeWitt wanted to know about the process of getting a sensor. Mr. Papapostolou indicated that the distribution of sensors are through the STAR Grant Program. Mr. Papapostolou suggested visiting AQ-SPEC webpage (<http://www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec/home>).

Supervisor Rutherford asked how the program will integrate with AB 617 community monitoring. Mr. Papapostolou said that local sensors will be involved and then will be proposed in AB 617 and other programs.

Mr. LaMarr inquired as to why San Bernardino does not have sensors. Mr. Papapostolou responded that there are sensors in San Bernardino, but are not part of the STAR Grant Program. Mr. LaMarr asked if the emissions data that will be made available at the AB 617 meetings could also be given to this group, to which Mr. Papapostolou responded yes.

*Action Item: Provide presentation on AB 617 emissions data.*

Ms. Loof stated that different sensors may give differing results on emissions and asked what standard SCAQMD is using to validate certain types of technologies. Mr. Papapostolou stated that we are involved in discussions of establishing a performance verification program at the state level. At the national level, there are discussions of a certification program, which will be led by the US EPA.

Dr. Jason Low indicated that there are limitations to the devices being used, and they are not being used for compliance targets at this point.

Mr. Rothbart asked, for anyone having a device, if they are made aware that it is a screening tool and may identify a potential area that needs to be validated by a regulatory entity. As to AB 617, Dr. Low stated that module 2 will be heavily emphasized on air monitoring.

Mr. Rothbart asked for validation of samples and how to properly sample. Mr. Papapostolou stated that guidance is provided.

Mr. LaMarr asked if data will be reliable enough, if it will be included in other studies. Mr. Papapostolou said that the local sensors are not yet approved methods. They complement existing regulatory networks. Dr. Low stated that the technology provides information, which is good enough to supplement smoke advisory.

Ms. Loof stated that it would be helpful to be part of the conversation in ongoing discussions of certification of sensors.

Supervisor Perez inquired as to what the sensors are monitoring, where they are located in his district, and requested a copy showing the locations of said sensors. He explained that nosebleeds have been reported at the schools around the Salton Sea. Mr. Papapostolou stated that the sensors that he has been discussing measure PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, with the numbers referring to size of particles. Supervisor Perez asked if there is any link between PM<sub>10</sub> and nosebleeds. Mr. Papapostolou stated that he is not aware of any association, but exposure to poor air quality can cause nosebleeds. Supervisor Perez requested meetings and further data in regards to nosebleeds at the schools in his district. Dr. Low said that there are three devices in Eastern Coachella, and agreed to facilitate a conversation about PM<sub>10</sub> data and nosebleeds.

*Action Item: Send map with locations of monitors in 4<sup>th</sup> District to Supervisor Perez.*

*Action Item: Schedule meeting to discuss any correlation between nosebleeds and PM<sub>10</sub>.*

Mr. Harvey Eder commented on solar and other environmental issues.

#### **Agenda Item #4 – Proposed Updates to the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) Guidelines**

Mr. Al Baez presented on proposed updates on the Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) Guidelines.

Ms. Loof requested a copy of the Engineering & Permitting policy memorandum. Mr. Tom Lee indicated there is a link to the memorandum on the BACT webpage.

Mr. DeWitt and Mr. LaMarr inquired about costs per ton. Mr. Baez stated that costs were established in 2005 on a cost per ton basis and it will be in the board package. Mr. Baez indicated that in BACT, we get in touch with actual facilities, get input on costs for installation, compare to costs per ton. BACT is case specific.

Mr. Rothbart suggested that BACT should have a more formal process. Mr. Baez said a BACT public meeting for proposed updates will be scheduled and what Mr. Rothbart is suggesting would require Board action.

Mr. Blake asked if BACT guidelines pass, how long it would take for all permits to be re-written. Mr. Baez said rules are not impacted and that it only applies to anything new, modified or relocated.

Mr. Eder requested to enter into the record documents of clerk's transcript from appellate court and commented about solar.

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities**

No comments.

**Agenda Item #7 - Other Business**

Ms. Wesson stated that the December meeting will be held at Centro Basco. The item on the agenda will be regarding goals and objectives, and to submit any recommendations to Ms. Stacy Garcia.

**Agenda Item #8 - Public Comment**

Mr. Eder provided public comment on solar and other environmental issues.

**Agenda Item #9 – Next Meeting Date**

The next regular Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 14, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at Centro Basco located at 13432 Central Ave., Chino, 91710.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.