



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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Office of the Executive Officer
Wayne Nastri
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April 27, 2018

Richard Corey
Executive Officer
California Air Resources Board
Transportation and Toxic Division
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Update on the AB 617 Community Identification Process: Preliminary Community List

Dear Mr. Corey:

To implement Assembly Bill (AB) 617, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff has worked to identify high cumulative exposure burden areas within its jurisdiction and has drafted a preliminary and inclusive list of communities that are being considered for this program. This list is subject to change based on continuing technical analysis and public input. In drafting this preliminary list of communities, staff used a combination of existing screening tools, existing air pollution studies, and public input. Our approach focuses on identifying areas exposed to high pollution levels and/or experiencing socioeconomic burden and vulnerability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Nastri", written over a light blue background.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

WN/drw

Enclosures:

- AB 617 Community Identification Process: Preliminary Community List from SCAQMD
- Appendix: SCAQMD outreach materials for AB 617 implementation

AB 617 Community Identification Process: Preliminary Community List from SCAQMD

1. Introduction

Assembly Bill (AB) 617 requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB), in consultation with air districts, to select communities for the deployment of community air monitoring systems and/or the preparation of community emissions reduction programs. AB 617 specifies that the highest priority areas shall be disadvantaged communities with a high cumulative exposure burden for criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff has worked to identify high cumulative exposure burden areas in its jurisdiction, and has drafted a *preliminary* and *inclusive* list of communities that are being considered for this program. In drafting this preliminary list of communities, staff used a combination of existing screening tools, existing air pollution studies, and public input. Our approach focuses on identifying areas exposed to high pollution levels and/or experiencing socioeconomic burden and vulnerability as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 39711: “based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria”. In addition to the technical assessment, public input was thoughtfully considered and integrated into the community identification process. Communities were also identified according to their known local sources of air pollution where community plans would have a significant positive impacts beyond what has already been done.

2. Technical data sources to screen for areas with high cumulative air toxics risks or high cumulative exposure burdens

Our approach focused on identifying communities using a broadly inclusive approach in order to generate a preliminary list of all communities under consideration for AB 617 implementation within the South Coast Air Basin (Basin). Identification of the most heavily burdened communities was based on the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 screening tool and the most recent Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES) IV results.

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 provided information on the community’s exposure to three air pollutants, including two key criteria pollutants (fine particulate matter and ozone) and the toxic air contaminant diesel PM. This screening tool also includes additional exposure indicators (such as drinking water contaminants, pesticide use, traffic density and toxic releases from facilities); environmental hazards (such as cleanup sites, groundwater threats, hazardous waste generators and facilities, impaired water bodies, solid waste sites and facilities); and sensitive population indicators, based on the number of people in a community who may be more severely affected by pollution because of their health conditions (asthma rates, cardiovascular disease rates, and rates of low birth weight infants). Community characteristics that may increase vulnerability to pollution such as educational attainment, housing burden, linguistic isolation, poverty and unemployment were also included in the overall score.

MATES IV provided information on the cumulative impact of air toxics within the Basin. MATES IV data was based on the combination of a comprehensive monitoring program, an updated

emissions inventory of toxic air contaminants, and a modeling effort to characterize risk across the Basin. MATES IV focused on the cancer risk from exposure to air toxics. MATES IV and CalEnviroScreen 3.0 were used to identify areas impacted by multiple pollution sources, including areas with a high concentration of stationary sources.

3. Outreach and public input

Public input was a key element to understand where the most heavily burdened communities are located within the Basin. SCAQMD staff held five separate AB 617 community meetings in Commerce, Wilmington, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Anaheim. During these meetings SCAQMD staff presented AB 617's key elements, a summary of the bill's provisions, the community identification and prioritization process, and the allocation of funding in AB 134 through the existing Carl Moyer Program. There was a poster session and small group discussions focused on three questions related to AB 617 and 134. An infographic and a FAQ sheet were provided to the meeting attendees to facilitate conveying the information to the public (see Appendix). SCAQMD staff acted as facilitators to get feedback from the community and also provided information and answered questions during and after the meeting. The audience was also encouraged to fill out and submit SCAQMD's community self-recommendation forms.

In addition, AB 617 implementation was presented at other events such as the SCAQMD Environmental Justice Community Partnership meetings in Coachella and Irvine as well as community meetings hosted by other organizations such as Comite Civico del Valle's Environmental Health Leadership Summit in Heber, BizFed, Santa Ana's Madison Neighborhood Council community meeting, a community workshop and a summit organized by Consejo De Federaciones Mexicanas (COFEM), and two separate community meetings organized by Assembly member Reyes and Assembly Member Muratsuchi.

Outreach efforts by SCAQMD staff also included presentations at government agency meetings and workshops, advisory groups and staff briefings such as CARB's AB 617 Workshops, CAPCOA, the SCAQMD Environmental Justice Advisory Group, the Southern California Alliance of Governments meeting, the SCAQMD Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group, an IAC – Sanitation District meeting, CARB's Community Air Protection Program Technical Summit, a staff meeting with US EPA Region 9, as well as the Gateway and Orange County Councils of Governments meetings. SCAQMD staff also presented our AB 617 efforts in academic lectures and conferences at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and California State University, Northridge (CSUN).

The figure below summarizes SCAQMD staff's outreach efforts from February through April 2018:



Fig. 1 – Meetings held and attended by SCAQMD staff where AB 617 was discussed (February – April 2018)

A dedicated website was created to provide information on AB 617 events and updates (www.aqmd.gov/AB617). This website included a PDF form, which could be filled in online, and a web form for community members to submit their input and self-recommendations. As of April 20, 2018, SCAQMD staff has received a total of 55 community self-recommendations and will consider all submissions *through May 7, 2018* for inclusion in the Year 1 prioritization effort.

The community input received to date included several key areas of air quality concerns, including specific types of air pollution sources that were highlighted as priority areas of focus, an emphasis on prioritizing communities that have schools near industrial areas with air pollution sources, and communities with concentrated clusters of facilities. Community members also emphasized several population factors they noted would be important to help prioritize communities for AB 617 implementation. Below is a summary of the key input received to date:

- Air pollution sources
 1. Diesel sources (freeways, trucks, warehouses, railyards)
 2. Oil production & processing (wells, refineries)
 3. Landfills, scrap yards, hazardous waste sites
- Proximity/land use factors
 1. Schools near air pollution sources/ industrial areas
 2. Concentration of industries
 3. Green spaces
- Population factors
 1. Population density
 2. Low income
 3. Education attainment

4. Communities of color
5. Access to healthcare
6. Asthma, cancer rates
7. Homeless density

Several of these key factors (such as emission sources, including diesel sources, other large facility emissions, and concentrations of industries) are reflected in the MATES IV cancer risk or in the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scoring metric (diesel sources, toxic releases, hazardous waste sites, asthma rates, poverty, unemployment, educational attainment, and housing burden). Although access to healthcare is not explicitly part of the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 metric, some of the population characteristics that reflect socioeconomic status (including linguistic isolation, which can affect a community's access to healthcare) may serve as proxies to a measure of access to healthcare. Also, CalEnviroScreen 3.0 does not include an indicator for communities of color because California state law defines environmental justice to mean "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." Government Code Section 65040.12(e).

4. Methodology

Given the input received from the community, there was substantial support for the use of MATES IV and CalEnviroScreen 3.0 data to identify a preliminary list of communities for consideration for AB 617 implementation. Specifically, staff began by including census tracts that met one or more of the following three criteria:

- a) CalEnviroScreen 3.0 score that was in the 75th to 100th percentile ("top 25%") statewide;
- b) MATES IV air toxics cancer risk that was in the 75th to 100th percentile ("top 25%") SCAQMD jurisdiction wide;
- c) Average percentage of industrial land use within 1000 feet from the school boundaries was greater than 20%, based on 2016 Regional Transportation Plan data from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

In addition, communities were included in the preliminary list if:

- a) The community submitted an official community self-recommendation prior to April 20, 2018;
- b) The community recommended itself during one of the SCAQMD AB 617 community meetings;
- c) CARB received a direct community self-nomination that was forwarded to SCAQMD.

Communities can continue to submit self-recommendations to SCAQMD through May 7, 2018 for consideration in the first year of AB 617 implementation. Additional community nominations will be considered for prioritization in subsequent years.

5. Preliminary list of identified communities (in alphabetical order)

Below is the preliminary list of communities that have been identified for consideration for AB 617 implementation in the Basin. The word "community" is not defined in state law and it may vary based on unique needs and identity of each community. The preliminary list below considers

geographical and political boundaries, proximity to common sources, and known air quality issues. This list of communities is broadly inclusive and is subject to change as SCAQMD staff continues to conduct analyses and receive self-recommendations, which may result in additional communities being included, two or more communities being combined into one, redefining included areas, using different community names, and other changes.

Preliminary list of communities in the Basin under consideration for AB 617 implementation:

- Anaheim / Fullerton (South) / Orange (North and Central)
- Azusa / Duarte / Monrovia / Arcadia (East) / North 605
- Bloomington / Fontana / Rialto
- Beaumont
- Bell / Bell Gardens / Commerce / Maywood / Cudahy
- Buena Park
- Canoga Park / Northridge / Reseda / Van Nuys / Panorama City / Winnetka / Tarzana
- Cerritos / Buena Park / Artesia / La Mirada / Hawaiian Gardens
- Colton / Grand Terrace / San Bernardino (Southwest)
- Commerce / Maywood / Cudahy
- Compton Watts/ Rancho Dominguez / Victoria / Willowbrook
- Corona / Temescal Valley
- Costa Mesa
- Culver City (East) / Palms (East)
- Downey / Bellflower / Lakewood (North) / Cerritos (North)
- Downtown Los Angeles
- Downey / Bell / Bell Gardens / Bellflower
- El Monte / South El Monte / Avocado Heights / Hacienda Heights / West La Puente
- East LA Interchange / Boyle Heights / East Los Angeles
- Eastern Coachella Valley
- Glendale (Central & South) / Burbank
- Gardena / Alondra Park / Lawndale / Central 110
- Hemet / San Jacinto
- Highland / Crestline
- Hollywood / Los Feliz / Atwater Village / Echo Park / Silver Lake
- Huntington Beach
- Inglewood / Hawthorne / Westmont
- LAX / Lennox / El Segundo / Del Aire
- La Habra
- Lake Elsinore
- La Puente / Covina / West Covina / Baldwin Park
- Long Beach (East) / Signal Hill
- Mira Loma / Jurupa Valley / Eastvale / Pedley
- Montebello

- Moreno Valley
- Ontario (West) / Montclair / Upland / Claremont (South)
- Ontario (East) / Rancho Cucamonga
- Pacoima / North Hollywood / Sun Valley / San Fernando / Sylmar
- Paramount / Long Beach (North) / East Rancho Dominguez
- Pasadena near I-210
- Perris / Nuevo
- Pomona / Chino / Walnut (East) / San Dimas (South)
- Porter Ranch
- Riverside (Central & East) / Rubidoux / Highgrove
- Riverside (West) / Pedley
- Redlands / Loma Linda
- San Bernardino / Muscoy
- San Gabriel / Rosemead / Monterey Park / Alhambra (South)
- Santa Ana / Garden Grove (East)
- Santa Fe Springs / Norwalk / West Whittier / Los Nietos / Pico Rivera
- Santa Monica (East)
- South Gate / Lynwood
- South and Southeast LA/ Huntington Park / Florence – Firestone / Walnut Park
- Torrance
- Westlake / Koreatown / Midcity / Mid-Wilshire
- Westminster / Garden Grove / Stanton / Garden Grove (East)
- Wilmington / Long Beach (West) / Carson / San Pedro / West Carson / Harbor City (East)

6. Next Steps (Prioritizing Communities for AB 617 Implementation)

This preliminary list of communities under consideration includes a large portion of the Basin and is substantially greater than the number of communities SCAQMD is able to focus on in the first few years of implementing AB 617 given resource constraints. These communities will be prioritized to recommend specific communities for inclusion in AB 617 community monitoring and/or emissions reduction plans.

Below is a summary of the future steps SCAQMD staff will take in the implementation of AB 617:

1. *Through May 7, 2018:* SCAQMD staff will continue to receive and integrate community input.
2. *Early May 2018:* SCAQMD staff will develop methodology to prioritize the community list according to different factors, which may include:
 - a. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 score
 - b. MATES IV air toxics cancer risk

- c. Proximity of schools to stationary sources and freeways
 - d. Past or current community monitoring and/or emission reduction programs
 - e. Local administrative and technical resources, community interest and readiness, participation and partnerships
3. *Late May 2018 to June 2018*: SCAQMD staff will hold a series of community meetings in the four counties within SCAQMD's jurisdiction to ensure community participation in the prioritization process. Community members will be able to provide input on the prioritized list of communities.
 4. *June 8, 2018*: Stationary Source Committee considers recommended communities and prioritization (including Year 1 communities).
 5. *July 6, 2018*: Governing Board considers recommended communities and prioritization (including Year 1 communities) for subsequent submittal to CARB.

In summary, SCAQMD staff have made significant progress to identify communities that are disproportionately impacted by air pollution, other environmental pollution, socioeconomic factors, and population factors that increase sensitivity to the health effects of environmental pollution. The preliminary list of communities provided above was identified using technical data from CalEnviroScreen 3.0 and MATES IV, with substantial public input to support the use of these two data sources as well as additional data to identify areas with a high density of industrial areas near schools. The preliminary list also includes all communities for which SCAQMD received a community self-recommendation (as of April 20, 2018). The next steps will be to prioritize these communities and continue to seek public input for the prioritization process and recommendation of communities for AB 617 implementation in Year 1.

AB 617

Assembly Bill

A new Opportunity for Communities impacted by Air Pollution



Key Goals

Develop Local Partnerships

Clean Technology Investments

Air Monitoring

Community Centered

Cleaner Air

Easier Access to Information

Enhanced Transparency



Tailored Approach

Community Input

Available Information

Community Selection

Community Air Monitoring

Community Emissions Reduction Plan

Cleaner Air



- Step 1: Visit www.aqmd.gov/ab617
- Step 2: Fill out the web form
- Step 3: Submit your response

Provide Input

on the Community Selection Process & Recommend your Community

South Coast Air Quality Management District

   @SouthCoastAQMD • www.aqmd.gov

909-396-3314 • ab617@aqmd.gov

A1: AB 617 Infographic in English

AB 617

Ley de la Asamblea

Una nueva Oportunidad
para Comunidades
Impactadas
por la Contaminación
del Aire



Metas Clave



Enfoque a medida



Denos Sugerencias sobre el Proceso de Selección de la Comunidad y Recomiende su Comunidad

- Paso 1: Visite www.aqmd.gov/ab617
- Paso 2: Complete el formulario en la página web
- Paso 3: Envíenos su respuesta

Distrito de Gestión de la Calidad del Aire en la Costa Sur



@SouthCoastAQMD • www.aqmd.gov

909-396-3314 • ab617@aqmd.gov



FAQ on Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Identification Process

1. What is Assembly Bill (AB) 617?

AB 617 is a new law that focuses on reducing exposure to harmful air pollution in disadvantaged communities. This law provides an exciting opportunity for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to further address community air quality issues in collaboration with the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

2. How is a community defined?

The new law does not provide a definition, so it could vary by community. SCAQMD staff will use available air pollution information and community input to define communities according to a variety of potential factors, including existing community identity, political boundaries, common air pollution sources and concerns, and community partnerships.

3. How many communities will be selected?

The number of communities is yet to be determined and will likely be phased in over many years. It will depend on the air quality issues and resources available. CARB expects that there could be more than one hundred of communities selected throughout the state in the years to come. SCAQMD staff believes that as many as half of those communities will be located within our area.

4. How can you self-recommend your community?

If you would like to self-recommend your community to be considered for AB 617, please fill out the AB 617 Community Self Recommendation Form on our website at www.aqmd.gov/AB617

5. How can you provide feedback on this process?

Communities have first-hand knowledge of local air quality concerns, emission sources, communicating data to residents, and potential actions to improve air quality. This direct experience is critical for understanding community needs and developing

recommendations for implementation of AB 617 requirements. Please send your responses and any additional comments to ab617@aqmd.gov.

6. How will communities be selected?

Identification of the most heavily burdened communities will be based on many factors including, but not limited to:

a) Technical factors that characterize cumulative exposure to air pollution within disadvantaged communities

- Measured concentrations of air pollutants, and air quality modeling results;
- Numbers of sensitive receptors (schools, daycare centers, hospitals) exposed to pollution;
- Number of and proximity to emission sources;
- Cancer risk estimates from SCAQMD's Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES); and
- Socio-economic factors such as poverty levels, unemployment rates, and linguistic isolation...etc

b) Public input is a critical element for community identification and prioritization. As such, SCAQMD staff is seeking community self-recommendations (*question 5*)

In addition to the technical information and public input, SCAQMD will consider other factors, including but not limited to:

- Past or current community monitoring and/or emission reduction programs;
- Local administrative and technical resources; and
- Community interest and preparation, participation, and partnerships.

Once all the information has been gathered, SCAQMD staff will prepare a list of communities that will be prioritized in terms of the needs of the community and available resources. This list will be considered by SCAQMD's Governing Board and then provided to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for final approval.



Información sobre el Proceso de Identificación de Comunidades de la Ley de la Asamblea (AB) 617

1. ¿Qué es la Ley de la Asamblea (AB) 617?

AB 617 es una nueva ley que se enfoca en reducir la exposición a la contaminación del aire en comunidades desfavorecidas. Esta ley brinda una gran oportunidad que el Distrito de Gestión de la Calidad del Aire de la Costa Sur (SCAQMD), en colaboración con la Junta de Recursos del Aire de California (CARB), utilizará para resolver los problemas de calidad del aire en la comunidad.

2. ¿Cómo se define una comunidad?

La nueva ley no tiene una definición específica, por lo que podría variar según la comunidad. El personal de SCAQMD juntará la información sobre la contaminación del aire que hay disponible y las sugerencias que haya dado el público para definir las comunidades. Esto se analizará tomando en cuenta varios factores como los límites con los que la comunidad se identifica a sí misma, los límites políticos, las fuentes de contaminación, así como las preocupaciones que sean comunes entre los miembros de la comunidad y las asociaciones comunitarias.

3. ¿Cuántas comunidades serán seleccionadas?

El número de comunidades aún no se ha determinado y probablemente que la ley será implementada progresivamente durante varios años. También dependerá de los problemas de calidad del aire y los recursos disponibles. CARB anticipa que habrá más de cien comunidades seleccionadas en todo el estado en los próximos años. El personal de SCAQMD cree que aproximadamente la mitad de esas comunidades serán en nuestra área.

4. ¿Cómo puede recomendar a su comunidad?

Si desea recomendar a su comunidad para ser considerado para el programa de AB 617, complete el formulario de recomendación comunitaria de AB 617 en nuestra página web en www.aqmd.gov/AB617.

5. ¿Cómo puede darnos sus sugerencias sobre este proceso?

Las comunidades conocen de primera mano las preocupaciones locales sobre la calidad del aire, las fuentes de emisión, como comunicar la información a los residentes y las posibles acciones para mejorar la calidad del aire. Esta experiencia directa es fundamental para comprender las necesidades de la comunidad y desarrollar recomendaciones

para la implementación de los requisitos de AB 617. Envíe sus respuestas y cualquier comentario adicional a ab617@aqmd.gov.

8. ¿Cómo se seleccionarán las comunidades?

La identificación de las comunidades más impactadas se basará en muchos factores que incluyen, entre otros:

a) Factores técnicos que caracterizan la exposición cumulativa a la contaminación del aire en comunidades desfavorecidas:

- Los niveles de concentración de contaminantes y resultados de la modelación de la calidad del aire;
- El número de receptores sensibles (escuelas, guarderías, hospitales) expuestos a la contaminación;
- El número y proximidad a las fuentes de emisión;
- Las estimaciones de riesgo de cáncer del Estudio de Exposición a Tóxicos Múltiples en el aire de SCAQMD (MATES); y
- Los factores socioeconómicos como los niveles de pobreza, las tasas de desempleo y el aislamiento lingüístico...etc.

b) Las sugerencias del público son esenciales para poder identificar y priorizar a las comunidades. Como tal, el personal de SCAQMD está buscando recomendaciones de la comunidad (pregunta 5).

Además de la información técnica y las sugerencias del público, SCAQMD considerará otros factores, que incluyen, entre otros:

- Programas pasados o presentes de monitoreo comunitario y/o reducción de emisiones;
- Recursos administrativos y técnicos locales; y
- El interés y preparación de la comunidad, su participación y asociaciones.

Una vez que se haya juntado toda esta información, el personal de SCAQMD preparará una lista de comunidades que serán priorizadas según sus necesidades y los recursos disponibles. Esta lista será considerada por la Junta Gubernamental de SCAQMD y luego se proveerá a la Junta de Recursos del Aire de California (CARB) para su aprobación final.



AB 617 Community Self-Recommendation Form

Please send us the completed form

By email:
ab617@aqmd.gov

or

By mail:
Attn: AB 617 forms
21865 Copley Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Note: Information provided by you on this worksheet (including contact or other personal information) is a public record and may be released in response to a California Public Records Act request

1. Date: [redacted]

Contact Information

2. First and Last Name: [redacted]

3. Phone: [redacted]

4. Email: [redacted]

5. Organization (if applicable): [redacted]

Input on Community Selection and Priorities

6. What types of information should we consider for selecting and prioritizing communities for AB 617?

[redacted]

Community Information

7. Provide a brief description of your community:

[redacted]

8. Community Name (as known by community members): [redacted]

9. Community Location

Street(s), City or Cities and Zip Code(s): [redacted]

10. Is your community recommending itself for deployment of a community air monitoring campaign, for development of a community emissions reduction program, or both?

- Community air monitoring
- Community emissions reduction program
- Both

11. What are the air pollution concern(s) in your community? Select all that apply:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light-duty traffic (cars and vans) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy-duty traffic (trucks) | <input type="checkbox"/> Odor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goods movement | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Freeways | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Power plants | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rail yards | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marine port | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and gas facilities | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warehouses | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auto-body shops | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waste incinerators | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical plants | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal processing facilities | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural processes | |

12. If known, please provide information on the name and location of specific sources of air pollution on the community:

Additional Information

13. What is the best way for us to get your input? Select all that apply:

- Email
- Website
- Social Media
- City Governments
- Other. Please specify:

14. Would you like to sign up for updates on AB 617? Select yes to be included in the e-mail list:

- Yes
- No



South Coast
AQMD

VENGA Y HABLEMOS
sobre como mejorar la calidad
del aire en su comunidad

Mediante la Ley de la Asamblea (AB) 617 & 134

Martes, 27 de marzo del 2018

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Las puertas se abrirán a las 5:30 PM.

¡Venga a conocernos!

Centro de administración del
Condado de Riverside

4080 Lemon St.

Riverside CA 92501



A6: AB 617 Social media post sample



A7: Photographs from AB 617 community meetings hosted by SCAQMD