



South Coast Air Quality Management District

South Coast
AQMD 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory Group Members

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), Chair (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Vice Chair (Board Member)
Veronica Padilla-Campos (Board Member)

Elizabeth Alcantar	Angela Garcia
Rhetta Alexander	Kareem Gongora
Manuel Arredondo	Ana Gonzalez
Angelica Balderas	Dr. Monique Hernandez
Dr. Lawrence Beeson	Dr. Jill Johnston
Suzanne Bilodeau	Humberto Lugo
Paul Choe	David McNeill
Kerry Doi	Daniel Morales
Dr. Afif El-Hasan	Donald Smith
Mary Figueroa	Rafael Yanez

Friday, October 22, 2021 ♦ 12:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) meeting will only be conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Please follow the instructions below to join the webinar meeting remotely.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION AT BOTTOM OF AGENDA

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting - from PC or Laptop

<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/99861780052>

Zoom Webinar ID: 998 6178 0052 (applies to all)

Teleconference Dial In

+1 669 900 6833

One tap mobile

+16699006833, 99861780052#

Audience will be able to provide public comment through telephone or Zoom connection during public comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL STILL BE TAKEN

AGENDA

Members of the public may address this body concerning any agenda item before or during consideration of that item (Gov't Code Section 54954.3(a)). If you wish to speak, raise your hand on Zoom or press Star 9 if participating by telephone. All agendas for regular meetings are posted at South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, California, at least 72 hours in advance of the regular meeting. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.

CALL TO ORDER

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (Items 1 through 2):

1. **Call to Order/Opening Remarks**
(No Motion Required)
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.)
Chair
2. **Review of Follow-Up/Action Items**
(No Motion Required)
Staff will review the follow-up/action items identified in the previous meeting.
Derrick J. Alatorre
Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor
Legislative, Public Affairs & Media

ACTION ITEMS (Items 3 through 4):

3. **Approval of August 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes**
(Motion Required)
[Attachment 1]
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.)
4. **2022 Goals and Objectives**
(Motion Required)
[Attachment 2]
Advisory Group Members will review and discuss 2022 Goals and Objectives.
Julie Franco
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Legislative, Public Affairs & Media

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Items 5 through 7):

5. **Update of School Air Filtration Program**
(No Motion Required)
[Attachment 3]
Staff will provide an update on the school air filtration projects that were discussed at the August 27, 2021 meeting.
Maryam Hajbabaei
Air Quality Specialist
Science & Technology Advancement
6. **Overview of Rendering Plants**
(No Motion Required)
[Attachment 4]
Staff will provide an overview on rendering plant facilities.
Kevin Orellana
Senior Enforcement Manager
Compliance & Enforcement
7. **Member Updates**
(No Motion Required)
All

OTHER MATTERS:

8. **Other Business**
Any member of this body, or its staff, on his or her own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, may make a brief announcement or report on his or her own activities, provide a reference to staff regarding factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Gov't Code Section 54954.2)

9. Public Comment Period

At the end of the regular meeting agenda, an opportunity is provided for the public to speak on any subject within the Committee's authority that is not on the agenda. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.

10. Next Meeting Date – January 28, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Document Availability

All documents (i) constituting non-exempt public records, (ii) relating to an item on an agenda for a regular meeting, and (iii) having been distributed to at least a majority of the Committee after the agenda is posted, are available by contacting Alicia Lizarraga at (909) 396-2311, or send the request to EJCP@aqmd.gov.

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Environmental Justice Advisory Group meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact Alicia Lizarraga at (909) 396-2311 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to EJCP@aqmd.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

Instructions for Participating in a Virtual Meeting as an Attendee

As an attendee, you will have the opportunity to virtually raise your hand and provide public comment.

Before joining the call, please silence your other communication devices such as your cell or desk phone. This will prevent any feedback or interruptions during the meeting.

Please note: During the meeting, all participants will be placed on Mute by the host. You will not be able to mute or unmute your lines manually.

After each agenda item, the Chair will announce public comment.

A countdown timer will be displayed on the screen for each public comment.

If interpretation is needed, more time will be allotted.

Once you raise your hand to provide public comment, your name will be added to the speaker list. Your name will be called when it is your turn to comment. The host will then unmute your line.

Directions for Video ZOOM on a DESKTOP/LAPTOP:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the “**Raise Hand**” button on the bottom of the screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for Video Zoom on a SMARTPHONE:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the **“Raise Hand”** button on the bottom of your screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for TELEPHONE line only:

- If you would like to make public comment, please **dial *9** on your keypad to signal that you would like to comment.



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DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Veronica Padilla-Campos (Board Member)
Elizabeth Alcantar, City of Cudahy
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Angelica Balderas, Sierra Club
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. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Rafael Yanez, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz, Community Environmental Services
Brian Sheridan, Coalition of Clean Air

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Philip Crabbe III, Sr. Public Affairs Manager
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Maryam Hajbabaei, AQ Specialist
Alicia Lizarraga, Public Affairs Manager
Dana Bernard, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Stephano Padilla, Senior Public Affairs Specialist

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Vanessa Delgado called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Ms. Dana Bernard read the housekeeping items and then took roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of April 23, 2021 and the April 30, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Chair Delgado called for the approval of the April 23, 2021 and April 30, 2021 meeting minutes. Ms. Ana Gonzalez moved to approve the minutes and Mr. David McNeill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

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

Mr. Derrick Alatorre reviewed the action items from the April 23, 2021 meeting and April 30, 2021 special meeting:

Staff was asked to reach out to the group via email with an update on high speed rail. The email was sent out on July 2.

Staff was asked to coordinate with Chair Delgado regarding the scheduling of a special meeting. The special meeting was held on April 30.

Staff was asked to provide the website link to members for information on the Warehouse ISR. That link was shared on April 29.

Staff was asked to email the four EJAG authors to connect them for the purpose of drafting a letter to be sent to the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. The email was sent on April 30 and the letter was received by the Clerk of the Board on May 3.

Agenda Item #4: School Air Filtration Program Overview

Ms. Maryam Hajbabaei delivered a presentation on school air filtration programs.

Ms. Veronica Padilla-Campos requested a list of the 96 schools included in the program. Ms. Hajbabaei said we could provide the list.

Action Item: Staff to provide an update on the school air filtration program.

Action Item: Staff to send members list of the 96 schools in the program.

Dr. Afif El-Hassan asked if school attendance had been assessed in conjunction with the air filtration implementation. Ms. Hajbabaei stated the South Coast AQMD's program had not assessed for attendance, however other studies had been conducted which showed the use of the air filtration technology had a positive impact.

Mr. Rafael Yanez asked if the filtration equipment used was independent air monitors or retrofits applied to an existing air filtration system. Ms. Hajbabaei explained we either provide panel filters or use independent, standalone units.

Mr. Yanez asked for clarification of how certain funds were used for school or home filtration projects. He also asked if any funds would be used for the Inglewood Unified School District. Ms. Hajbabaei explained that projects' locations were often dependent on specifications by the funding sources, and by community members in the AB617 steering committees. No Inglewood school had been, but future projects could be considered for Inglewood, however.

Mr. Yanez asked if filtration projects were being pursued in temporary schooling and housing facilities. Staff responded they were not.

Ms. Mary Figueroa urged the South Coast AQMD to bring such projects to Riverside.

Ms. Angela Garcia asked how long the filters had been in place for the pilot study. Ms. Hajbabaei estimated they had been used for a period of three months. Ms. Garcia asked if the students and teachers reported any noticeable change in their air quality during the program. Ms. Hajbabaei stated they had. Ms. Garcia asked how she might suggest schools for inclusion in the program. Ms. Hajbabaei encouraged Ms. Garcia to reach out to district program staff.

Ms. Rhetta Alexander asked whether the schools and districts identified on page 3 of the presentation were pilot study communities. Ms. Hajbabaei specified they were not only pilot program schools, but all schools funded during the life of the project.

Ms. Padilla-Campos asked for clarification on the time frame of the project. South Coast AQMD have been able to fund programs lasting between 1 and 10 years, depending on settlement funds.

Mr. Kareem Gongora asked if there were any efforts to extend the program to unincorporated communities who had no sustainable municipal sources to rely on. He also asked if there were any future studies planned regarding the outcomes of the air filtration projects in regard to student health. Ms. Hajbabaei stated program availability is often based on fund availability in a certain area. She was not aware of any upcoming health studies, but mentioned there was an upcoming study on residential air filtration programs.

Mr. Rafael Yanez commented on the importance of utilizing the budget to the best possible extent and suggested some alternative means of achieving program goals while maximizing budget efficiency.

Mr. Mark Abramowitz with Community Environmental Services suggested a potential funding resource for school filtration in state and federal funding for HVAC (including air filtration) systems.

Agenda Item #5: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update

Ms. Alicia Lizarraga provided an update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.

Action Item: Staff to provide members with artwork details of EJ Conference

Ms. Padilla-Campos asked if the EJ Conference event is held in different locations annually, and if transportation options are available. Ms. Lizarraga stated that the goal is to take the event to locations in all four counties of the South Coast Air Basin in the future. Transportation to the event has not been arranged but is still possible dependent on budget.

Ms. Mary Figueroa suggested looking into setting up small, outdoor community gatherings similar to “Movies in the Park” setup to make the EJ conference accessible to more residents. She suggested several college campuses in Riverside County which could be used for future outreach events as well and reminded the group that CARB headquarters would soon be in Riverside. Chair Delgado asked if a special meeting could be called for members to brainstorm ways in which to help their communities be part of the EJ Conference. Mr. Alatorre suggested instead that group members send their suggestions to staff.

Ms. Garcia suggested increased efforts in reaching out to university students in environmental sciences to help expose them to career fields and current issues relevant to their studies.

Action Item: Staff to provide an update on the San Bernardino Valley College webinar and expanding to other colleges at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #6: Member Updates

Ms. Mary Figueroa requested a South Coast AQMD staff member speak at a community meeting regarding potential health impacts of a foam and polyurethane manufacturer. She also requested future discussion regarding an elementary school development in the East Side community which has been planned near major traffic and emissions sources.

Action Item: Staff to follow up with Ms. Figueroa regarding a speaker to discuss ER Carpenter at a community meeting.

Mr. Gongora requested future discussion by the group regarding housing, land use, greenhouse gas reduction benchmarks, and environmental justice communities.

Mr. Yanez expressed concern regarding rendering plant odors in the Boyle Heights and Commerce areas, and facility compliance with Rule 415. Mr. Alatorre suggested the topic be agendaized to be discussed in detail at a future meeting.

Action Item: Staff to request a presentation on rendering plants for a future meeting.

Agenda Item #7- Other Business

None

Agenda Item #8- Public Comment

Mr. Brian Sheridan shared information about the upcoming California Clean Air day, and invited members to visit the website and make a pledge for clean air.

Agenda Item #9: Next Meeting Date

The next EJAG meeting was announced for Friday, October 22, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.



Environmental Justice Advisory Group

2022 Goals & Objectives

The items below are proposed agenda topics to be addressed during the quarterly 2022 meetings for the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG). The Administrative Committee and Governing Board will receive the approved minutes, reflecting the discussions. Not all items are expected to be covered due to time constraints. EJAG members will provide insight on how to best communicate this information with community members and stakeholders.

The following are proposed agenda topics to be addressed during 2022:

1. Continued Environmental Justice Community Partnership Updates
2. Legislative Updates Related to Air Quality and/or Environmental Justice
3. Update on the Implementation of Assembly Bill 617
4. Information on South Coast AQMD Key Rules and Rule Amendments for 2022
5. Incentive Programs Targeted in Environmental Justice Communities
6. Regulation and Monitoring of Air Toxics in the South Coast Air Basin
7. Update/Implementing on Emerging Technologies That Help Clean the Air in Communities
8. Policies and Initiatives Related to the Goods Movement in the South Coast Air Basin
9. Health Studies Related to Air Quality
10. Overview of South Coast AQMD's Air Quality Complaint Process

UPDATE OF SCHOOL AIR FILTRATION PROGRAM

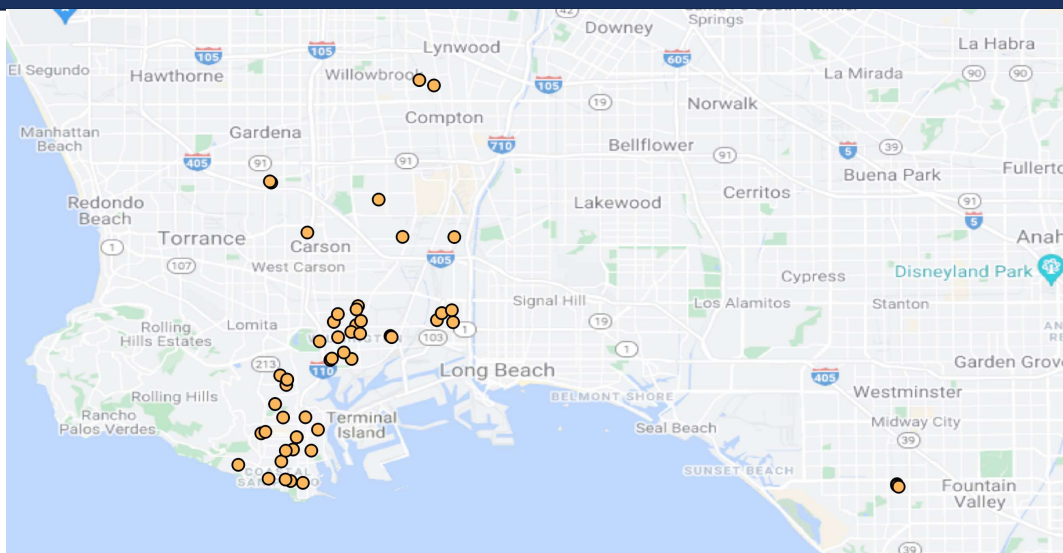
MARYAM HAJBABAEI, PH.D.

22 OCTOBER 2021

SOUTH COAST AQMD ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP

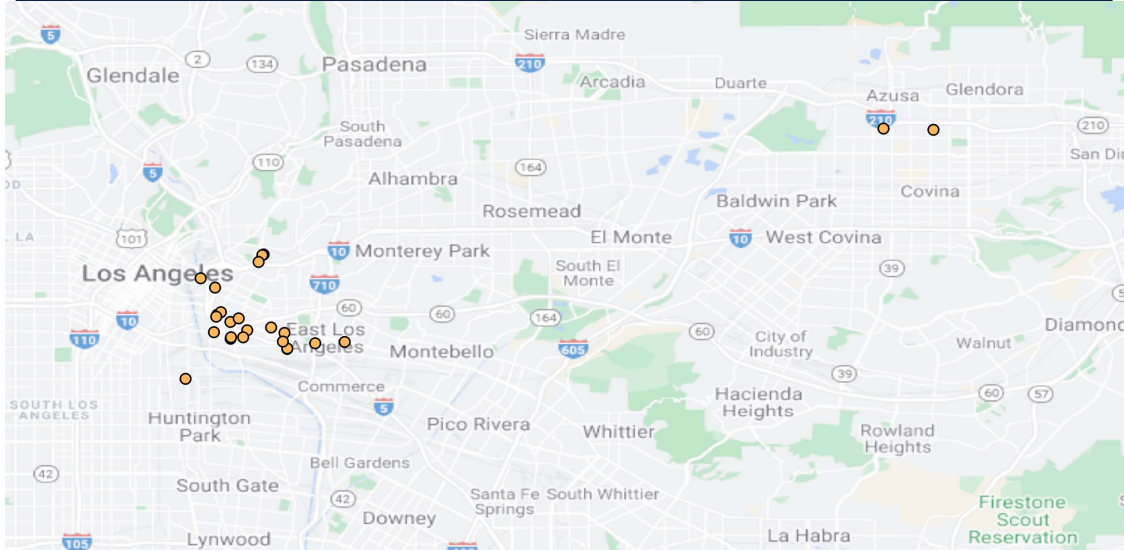
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Schools Received Air Filtration Systems through Funds Administered by the South Coast AQMD (Los Angeles – Wilmington, Carson, West Los Angeles, Long Beach)



2

**Schools Received Air Filtration Systems through Funds Administered by the South Coast AQMD
(Los Angeles – East Los Angeles, Azusa)**



3

**Schools Received Air Filtration Systems through Funds Administered by the South Coast AQMD
(San Bernardino – Coachella Valley)**



4

AB617 EFFORTS

School Air Filtration

- CSC members in SBM, ELABHWC, SELA, and WCWLB communities prioritized school air filtration projects (\$13.8M)
- Other parallel efforts through CARB & EPA SEPs and other violation settlements (~\$8M)

Residential Air Filtration

- CSC members in ELABHWC and ECV communities prioritized home air filtration projects (\$2.8M)
- Residential Pilot Study in San Bernardino (expected to start Q1 2022, ~ \$190K)

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AB617 SCHOOL AIR FILTRATION PROGRAM

CSC Budget
Prioritization

✓
CAPP Year 2 : \$6.4M
CAPP Year 3: \$7.4M

CSC School
Prioritization

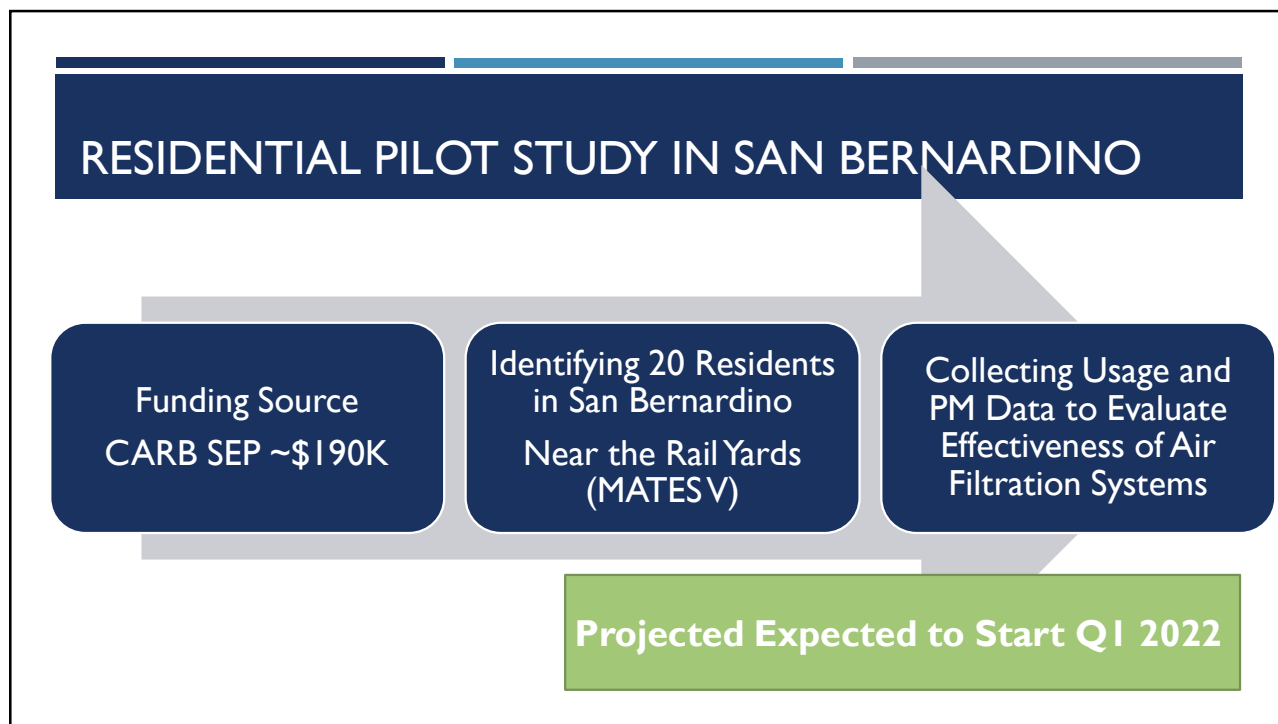
✓
SBM, ELABHWC, and
WCWLB School Finalized
Prioritization Lists

Project Plan
Development
for CARB
Approval

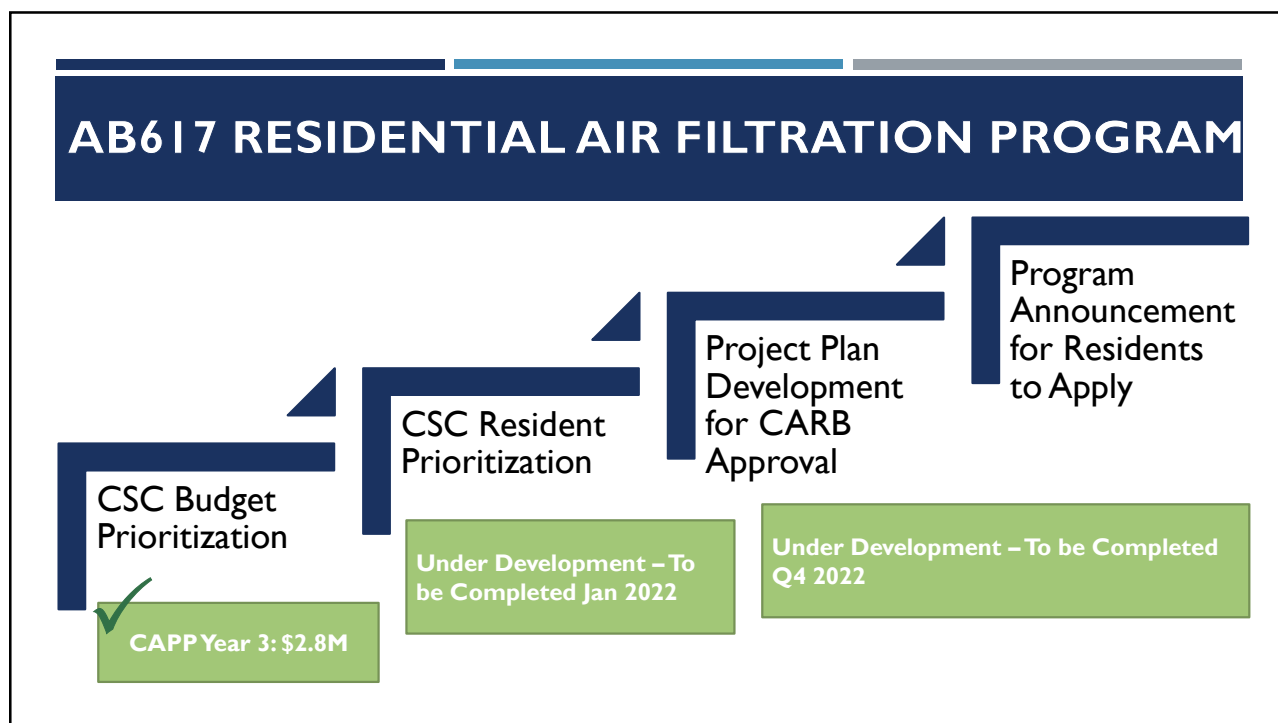
Under Development – Expected to
complete Q3 2022

Program
Announcement
for Schools to
Apply

6



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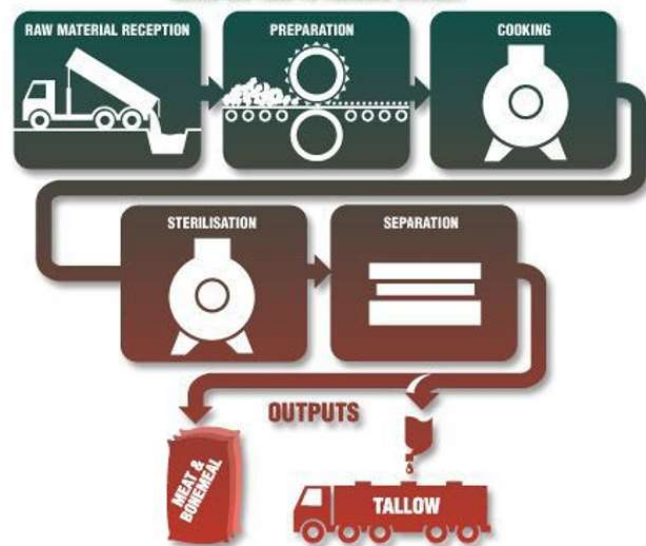
Overview of Rendering Plants

Environmental Justice Advisory Group
October 22, 2021

1

What is Rendering?

- A recycling process
 - Animal parts are cooked at high temperatures
 - Converted to intermediate products
 - Products used for making animal feeds, fertilizers, biofuels, and cosmetics, among others



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3



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Rule 415 – Odors From Rendering Facilities

- Adopted November 2017
- Requirements to reduce odorous operations include
 - Implementing best management practices to minimize odors
 - Staging materials in permanent total enclosures
 - Cooking or storing raw materials within 4 hours or receipt
- Construction of process enclosures required within 2 years of issuance of Permit to Construct

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Rule 415 Implementation Dates

- Permanent Total Enclosures (PTE)
- Final dates apply to PTEs for raw material grinding and cooking

Baker

- Main Plant: 3/9/2022
- Backup Plant: 4/22/2022

Darling

- 8/7/2021

Legacy (under Order for Abatement)

- 9/30/2022

Smithfield

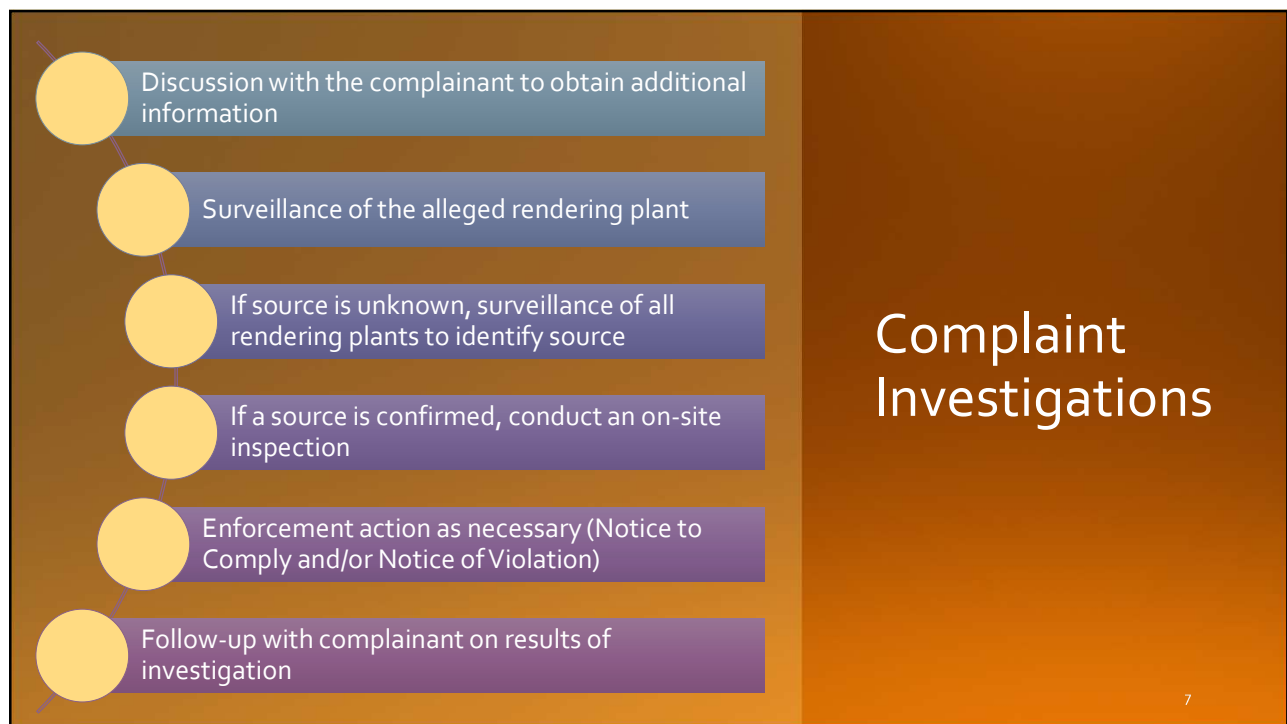
- 11/24/2022

Coast

- Exempt from rule requirements due to lower throughput of material

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Complaint Investigations

- Inspectors respond to odor complaints that are submitted to South Coast AQMD
- To confirm odors, inspectors need to detect the odors with the complainant and determine the specific source
- To establish a public nuisance violation, odors need to be confirmed with a significant number of complainants from separate households
- Odors are typically described as "rotting meat" or "foul/dead animal"

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Rule 415 - Odor Event

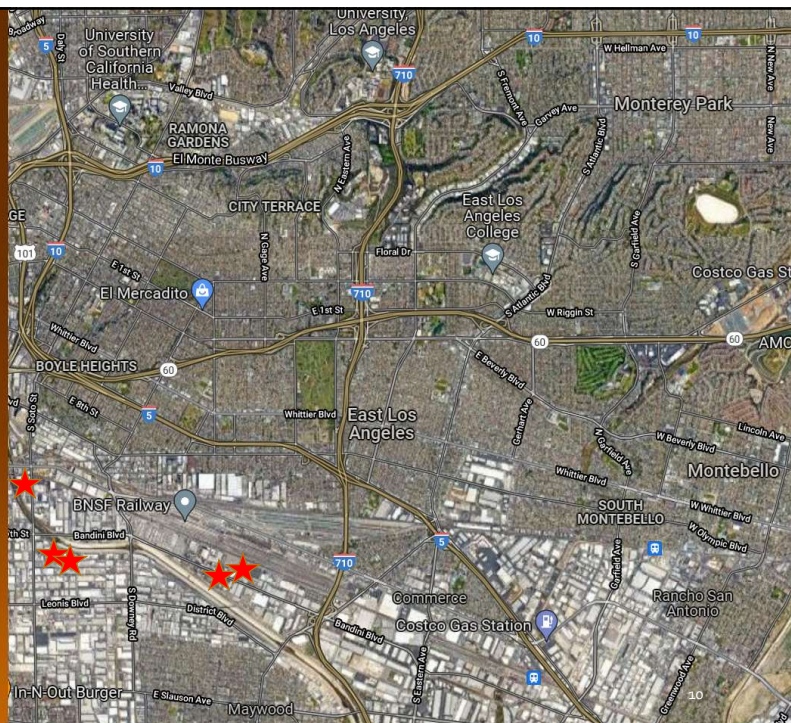
- Defined as an occurrence of rendering odors that:
 - Results in three (3) or more complaints (individual and from separate households)
 - Is confirmed by South Coast AQMD inspectors
 - The source of the odor is verified by an inspector

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Odor Investigation

- Nearby cities include Vernon, Commerce, Boyle Heights, and East Los Angeles
- Prevailing winds can push odors from all the facilities in the same general direction
- Shifting winds, geography, and distance can make verifying odors challenging
- Odors can travel many miles further to cities like Alhambra, El Sereno, Monterey Park, and Montebello



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Recent Odor Events

- This summer, numerous odor complaints were received alleging rendering odors
- Staff investigated each complaint and determined Baker as the source for most of the odors
- Investigation resulted in onsite inspections at all rendering facilities

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Recent Odor Events

June 2021

- A Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued to Baker for not processing raw material, storing it in a covered container, or moving it to an enclosed space within 4 hours as required by Rule 415

September 2021 - Staff confirmed two Rule 415 odor events

- As a result, Baker is required to submit a Specific Cause Analysis that includes:
 - A description of activities during the time of the odor events
 - Any upset or breakdown conditions at the facility, including potential sources of odors
 - Corrective measures taken to prevent future occurrences

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Recent Odor Events

July 2021

- Staff investigated and determined the odors were coming from another rendering facility (Darling)
- A process upset had occurred, which was corrected

September 2021

- Staff investigated and there was breakdown reported from the air pollution control equipment
- Problem was corrected

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Public Complaints

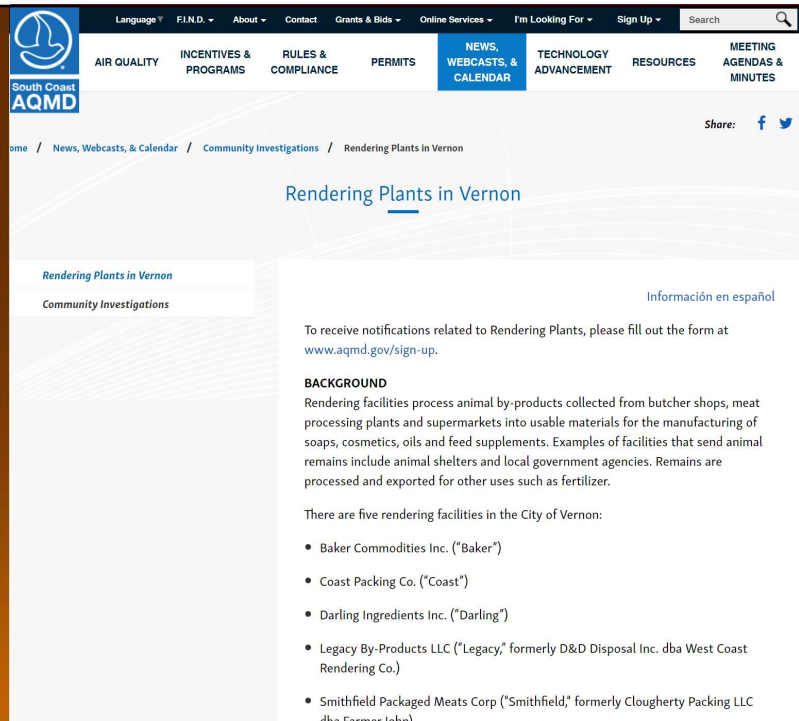
- **1-800-CUT-SMOG (1-800-288-7664) or online www.aqmd.gov**
- Live attendant during business hours (Monday-Friday) or to our standby system off-hours
- Complainant information = confidential
- Complaints can be made anonymously
- ***INSPECTORS FOLLOW-UP ON ALL COMPLAINTS***

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More Information

- On South Coast AQMD website, under Community Investigations
- Contains milestone dates and enforcement actions
- <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/rendering-plants>



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Thank You

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