

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 2, 2015

AGENDA NO. 29

REPORT: Technology Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Technology Committee met on September 18, 2015. Major topics included Technology Advancement items reflected in the regular Board Agenda for the October Board meeting. A summary of these topics with the Committee's comments is provided. The next Technology Committee meeting will be held on October 16, 2015.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Receive and file.

John J. Benoit  
Technology Committee Chair

MMM:pmk

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**Attendance:** Supervisor John J. Benoit participated by videoconference. Councilmember Judith Mitchell and Mayor Dennis Yates were in attendance at SCAQMD headquarters. Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Mayor Miguel Pulido, and Supervisor Janice Rutherford were absent due to a conflict with their schedule. Chair Supervisor Benoit appointed Mayor Ben Benoit as a one-time Committee Member for today's meeting.

## OCTOBER BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. **Execute Contracts for FY 2014-15 "Year 17" Carl Moyer Program and SOON Provision**

On June 3, 2015, proposals were received in response to the Program Announcements issued for the "Year 17" Carl Moyer Program and the SOON Provision. These actions are to execute contracts for the "Year 17" Carl Moyer Program and the SOON Provision in an amount not to exceed \$27,092,992, comprised of \$24,419,832 from the SB 1107 Fund (32), \$2,521,963 from the AB 923 Fund (80) and \$151,197 in accrued interest from the Carl Moyer Program Fund (32). This action is to also execute contracts for projects from a backup list upon availability of funds from returned or partially completed projects.

*Moved by Yates; seconded by Mitchell; unanimously approved.*

**2. Approve Awards for School Bus Replacements and Retrofits **

At its March 6, 2015 meeting, the Board issued a Program Announcement to solicit applications for replacement and retrofit of school buses. These actions are to approve awards to replace pre-1994 diesel school buses with new alternative fuel buses and to retrofit 1994 and newer buses with particulate traps in an amount not to exceed \$25,136,000 from the Carl Moyer Program AB 923 Fund (80).

*Supervisor Benoit asked whether repowering older school buses with electric drive trains would be more cost-effective than buying new CNG buses. He also asked if AB 923 funds could be used for that purpose. Staff responded that SB 513, which allows electric repower of school buses, was recently passed by the legislature and is now awaiting the Governor's signature. Subsequently, CARB will issue an advisory allowing air districts to fund electric repower projects of school buses with AB 923 funds.*

*Moved by Mayor Benoit; seconded by Yates; unanimously approved.*

**3. Execute Contract to Cosponsor Hydrogen Station Equipment Performance Project **

The California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) is requesting cofunding for the Hydrogen Station Equipment Performance (HyStEP) project to develop and operate equipment used to evaluate station performance pursuant to SAE Standard J2601. This action is to execute a contract with DMS to cosponsor the HyStEP project in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the Clean Fuels Fund (31).

*Councilmember Mitchell inquired about SCAQMD already providing support for this project as a member of CaFCP. Staff responded that CaFCP support for this project was approved at the CaFCP Executive Board meeting in April; therefore, SCAQMD would be providing over \$100,000.*

*Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Mayor Benoit; unanimously approved.*

**4. Execute Contract for Renewable Natural Gas Production and Vehicle Demonstration Project **

In order to fuel their fleet of natural gas solid waste collection vehicles, CR&R Environmental Services (CR&R) is producing biomethane, a renewable natural gas (RNG), at its material recovery facility in Perris, CA. CR&R proposes to expand their current RNG production with the addition of a second anaerobic digester. This expansion would displace 890,000 gallons of fossil-based fuel annually used in their vehicles and additional RNG produced would be injected into the Southern

California Gas Company pipeline. CR&R is also interested in demonstrating the use of RNG with the next generation natural gas engine that achieves 90 percent lower NOx emissions than the existing 2010 heavy-duty engine exhaust emissions standard. This action is to execute a contract with CR&R in an amount not to exceed \$900,000 from the Clean Fuels Fund (31) to cost-share construction of a second anaerobic digester and demonstrate the use of RNG with the next generation natural gas engine.

*Supervisor Benoit recused himself due to a campaign contribution from CR&R.*

*Mayor Benoit asked about the costs and funding for this project indicating that there have been increases in rates for waste collection to cover the cost of using renewable natural gas (RNG). Staff indicated that cities have asked SCAQMD staff to evaluate the benefits of RNG in terms of greenhouse gas emissions reduction. Staff believes cities can use the benefits to reduce their carbon footprint to meet climate goals. Staff will follow up with CR&R as to how credits for RNG production can be used to offset rate increases associated with use of RNG.*

*Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Mayor Benoit; unanimously approved.*

#### **5. Recognize Funds and Amend Contracts to Extend Implementation of Enhanced Fleet Modernization Program**

On December 5, 2014, the Board recognized funds and authorized contracts to implement the Enhanced Fleet Modernization Program (EFMP) and EFMP Plus-Up, which provides increasing incentives to eligible low- and middle-income owners of older vehicles to scrap their existing vehicle and receive a voucher to help acquire a newer vehicle or cover the cost of alternative mobility options. The EFMP is well received by the public and already oversubscribed. Staff has requested \$21,400,000 from CARB to extend implementation of the EFMP. These actions are to: 1) recognize up to \$21,400,000 in grants as approved by CARB to extend implementation of the EFMP and authorize the Executive Officer to accept grant terms and conditions; 2) amend four contracts in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 from the HEROS II Special Revenue Fund (56); 3) authorize the Executive Officer to allocate up to an additional \$300,000 from the HEROS II Special Revenue Fund (56) to increase any of the four contracts on an as-needed basis; and 4) authorize the Executive Officer to approve vouchers to qualified program participants up to \$30,592,000.

*Dr. Wallerstein indicated that other air districts will be looking at accessing the maximum amount of funding from CARB. Councilmember Mitchell asked what vehicles are being purchased under the program. Staff indicated that there have been a number of Nissan Leafs purchased so far. Supervisor Benoit asked about the disadvantaged communities and how they were calculated, and the distribution of*

*the benefits from the program. Staff indicated that the information is from CalEnviroscreen. Staff will provide a map under separate cover showing the disadvantaged communities. In addition, the application distributions are around 73% for Los Angeles County, 10% in Orange County, 6% in Riverside County, and 11% in San Bernardino County.*

*Moved by Yates; seconded by Mitchell; unanimously approved.*

**6. Recognize Revenue and Appropriate Funds to Support Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center Program**

SCAQMD applied for U.S. EPA “Community-Scale Air Toxics Ambient Monitoring” funds for FY 2015-16 through FY 2017-18 and was awarded \$569,682 to study air toxic emissions from refineries and the spatial and temporal distribution of such emissions over impacted local communities, utilizing next generation monitoring technologies. This action is to recognize \$569,682 in revenue into the General Fund and appropriate \$508,729 to the Science & Technology Advancement Budget (exclusive of the \$60,953 in Salaries and Benefits), to support the Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center Program.

*Moved by Yates; seconded by Mitchell; unanimously approved.*

**INFORMATION ONLY ITEM**

**7. Alternative Fuel Signage at SCAQMD**

*Staff provided an update on efforts to provide signage on the various fueling types at the SCAQMD Headquarters including CNG, hydrogen and electric vehicle charging. Staff is working with the Gateway Corporate Association on signage on the property, the City of Diamond Bar on street signage, and Caltrans for freeway signage. A decision from Gateway Corporation Association is expected shortly. Staff will be meeting with the City of Diamond Bar to address concerns raised on providing signage on city streets. Caltrans indicated that they can move ahead with freeway signage once the City has approved street signage.*

**8. Other Business**

*There was no other business.*

**9. Public Comment Period**

*There was no public comment.*

**Next Meeting: October 16, 2015**

**Attachment**

Attendance

## Attachment – Attendance

Mayor Ben Benoit .....	SCAQMD Governing Board
Supervisor John J. Benoit (via Videoconference).....	SCAQMD Governing Board
Councilmember Judith Mitchell.....	SCAQMD Governing Board
Mayor Dennis Yates .....	SCAQMD Governing Board
Mark Abramowitz .....	Board Consultant (Lyou)
Buford Crites .....	Board Consultant (JBenoit)
Andrew Silva.....	Board Consultant (Rutherford)
Bob Ulloa .....	Board Consultant (Yates)
Barry Wallerstein, Executive Officer.....	SCAQMD
John Olvera, Principal Deputy District Counsel .....	SCAQMD
Matt Miyasato, STA.....	SCAQMD
Henry Hogo, STA.....	SCAQMD
Laki Tisopulos, STA .....	SCAQMD
Jason Low, STA .....	SCAQMD
Randall Pasek, STA.....	SCAQMD
Andrea Polidori, STA.....	SCAQMD
Dean Saito, STA.....	SCAQMD
Phil Barroca, STA .....	SCAQMD
Ranji George, STA.....	SCAQMD
Lisa Mirisola, STA.....	SCAQMD
Vicki White, STA.....	SCAQMD
Liliana Garcia, STA .....	SCAQMD
Mary Leonard, FIN.....	SCAQMD
Gregory Rowley, IM .....	SCAQMD
Donna Vernon, STA.....	SCAQMD
Pat Krayser, STA.....	SCAQMD
Matt Essex .....	A-Z Bus
Ed Kendzierski .....	A-Z Bus
Mike Doherty .....	Marine Engine Service
Noel Muyco .....	SoCalGas