

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 4, 2019

AGENDA NO. 28

REPORT: Technology Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Technology Committee held a meeting on Friday, September 20, 2019. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Joe Buscaino, Chair
Technology Committee

MMM:av

Committee Members

Present: Council Member Joe Buscaino/Chair (videoconference)
Supervisor Lisa Bartlett (videoconference)
Mayor Judith Mitchell (videoconference)

Absent: Supervisor Janice Hahn
Council Member Dwight Robinson

Call to Order

Council Member Buscaino called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

Chair Buscaino asked the Committee to take Items #3 and 4 on consent. For item #3, Mayor Mitchell commented that she does not have a financial interest or conflict of interest, but is required to identify for the record that she is a Board Member of CARB which is involved in this item.

(Items were taken out of order)

3. Execute Contracts to Develop Methodology and Evaluate Onboard Emission Sensors for On-Road Heavy-Duty Vehicles

Onboard sensors on heavy-duty vehicles have been identified as an important tool to ensure real-world emissions compliance. Onboard sensors are also used to provide real-time information to enable dynamic emission controls. A consortium comprised of the University of California (UCR)/CE-CERT and other industry,

government and academia members has been formed to develop the next generation onboard sensors, analysis and reporting methodology. These actions are to execute two contracts from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31) with: 1) Southwest Research Institute to perform laboratory evaluations of onboard NO_x and ammonia sensors in an amount not to exceed \$50,000; and 2) UCR/CE-CERT to support the consortium's project to develop and demonstrate a low-cost onboard NO_x and PM sensor-based measurement methodology under real-world operating conditions for heavy-duty vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$201,087.

4. Transfer Funds and Amend Contracts for the Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Incentive and Exchange Program

On April 6, 2018, the Board approved awards to six qualified manufacturers to participate in the Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Incentive and Exchange Program. These contracts are funded using \$2,327,250 from a U.S. EPA 2016 Targeted Air Shed Grant and \$628,077 from South Coast AQMD's Rule 2202 Air Quality Investment Program. Staff proposes to increase participation in the program by providing an additional 25 percent discount (Plus Up Discount) on eligible lawn and garden equipment. This action is to approve the transfer of up to \$750,000 from the Air Quality Investment Fund – Rule 1111 (27) into the Advanced Technology, Outreach and Education Fund (17). This action is to also amend contracts with the participating manufacturers and suppliers of commercial lawn and garden equipment to offer the Plus Up Discount on eligible lawn and garden equipment.

Ranji George, a member of the public, expressed his support for these items and emphasized that South Coast AQMD and CARB should double their efforts to promote the cleanest technology. He also asked the Committee to increase efforts in support of hydrogen technology.

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Bartlett; items 3 and 4 unanimously approved.

1. Amend Awards and Issue Program Announcement for Heavy-Duty Trucks under the Proposition 1B-Goods Movement Program and Transfer Funds for Near-Zero Emissions Natural Gas Trucks

In December 2016 and October 2018, the Board approved awards for clean truck projects under the Proposition 1B-Goods Movement and Community Air Protection Programs. These projects include the replacement of older, high polluting diesel trucks with zero emissions, hybrid and low NO_x trucks. Since approval of these awards, some fleets have opted to switch to different truck technologies which require lower incentives or have declined their award. Since this has resulted in available funds, a new Program Announcement (PA) to solicit additional truck applications is required. In October 2018, the Board also recognized \$8 million in CEC revenue for near-zero emissions natural gas truck deployments. These actions

are to amend the original Proposition 1B-Goods Movement and Community Air Protection awards, issue a PA, and authorize the Executive Officer to execute contracts until all funds are exhausted. This action is to also transfer up to \$11 million as a temporary loan from the Proposition 1B-Goods Movement Program Fund (81) into the Community Air Protection AB 134 Fund (77) for near-zero emissions natural gas truck deployments until CEC funding is received.

Mayor Mitchell asked how many low-NOx trucks have been funded through South Coast AQMD programs to date, and if the 151 trucks mentioned in this item will be low NOx. Staff explained that the Board has approved hundreds of awards for low-NOx trucks; however, there is currently a manufacturing delay due to the high demand for Class 8 trucks. About 200 low-NOx trucks have resulted from South Coast AQMD incentive programs to date and are currently operating in the region. Mayor Mitchell expressed concern that if the Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) funding for low-NOx trucks goes away, whether the incentive programs will be able to fund low-NOx trucks. Staff commented that there is a need for further incentives for low-NOx trucks and that South Coast AQMD has sent a letter to CARB requesting the HVIP funding for low-NOx trucks remain intact. Staff added that the Volkswagen combustion category for low-NOx trucks is expected to be oversubscribed.

Michael Muñoz, Senior Researcher from the LA Alliance for a New Economy, supported the inclusion of a clause to support labor laws in the solicitation.

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Bartlett; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Bartlett, Buscaino, Mitchell
Noes: None
Absent: Hahn, Robinson

2. Recognize Revenue and Execute Contracts to Develop, Demonstrate and Commercialize Near-Zero Emissions Natural Gas and Propane Conversion Systems for On-Road Medium-Duty Vehicles

South Coast AQMD has been supporting rapid deployment of near-zero NOx heavy-duty vehicles since natural gas engines became commercially available in 2015, but there is a need to develop and certify near-zero engines for medium-duty vehicles. Staff has received three proposals to develop natural gas and propane conversion systems for the new Ford 7.3-liter gasoline engine and certify the systems to CARB's optional low-NOx standard for use in Class 4-7 Ford medium-duty vehicle platforms. These actions are to recognize revenue up to \$900,000 from SoCalGas into the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31) and execute three contracts totaling \$2,099,175 to develop and commercialize the new 7.3-liter near-zero NOx emissions medium-duty natural gas and/or propane conversions systems for different market segments.

Mayor Mitchell asked if the conversion system being proposed could be applied to diesel engines or can be retrofitted into existing vehicles. Staff responded that the proposed project is for the new Ford 7.3-liter gasoline engine, but other projects have focused on converting diesel engines to natural gas.

Ranji George commented on the success of the School Bus Program and asked why the Cummins 7.3-liter school bus engine was not being used.

Council Member Buscaino expressed his excitement about moving forward with this item. He added that these three demonstrations will help identify challenges and successes to move forward and make it more affordable for other engines to make this transition. He also thanked staff for leading this project, the three companies involved in the project and SoCalGas for partnering with the South Coast AQMD.

Mayor Mitchell asked if this program would allow the existing medium-duty trucks to convert to this cleaner technology at a reasonable cost. Staff indicated that the current project is for new engines/vehicles only, not for retrofit or repower purposes. Mayor Mitchell informed the committee of a recent announcement pertaining to a large order for zero-emission medium-duty trucks. She further indicated that CARB requirements are in place to transition public transit and other buses to zero emission.

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Bartlett; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Bartlett, Buscaino, Mitchell
Noes: None
Absent: Hahn, Robinson

OTHER MATTERS:

5. Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 18, 2019 at noon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Attachment

Attendance Record

ATTACHMENT

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING Attendance Record – September 20, 2019

Council Member Buscaino (videoconference)..... SCAQMD Board Member
Supervisor Lisa Bartlett (videoconference)..... SCAQMD Board Member
Mayor Judith Mitchell (videoconference)..... SCAQMD Board Member

Andy Silva..... Board Consultant (Rutherford)

Bridget McCann Western States Petroleum Association
Michael Munoz..... LA Alliance for a New Economy
Susan Stark Marathon Petroleum
Tammy Yamasaki..... Southern California Edison

Naveen Berry..... SCAQMD Staff
Sam Cao SCAQMD Staff
Joseph Impullitti SCAQMD Staff
Tom Lee SCAQMD Staff
Megan Lorenz..... SCAQMD Staff
Matt Miyasato..... SCAQMD Staff
Robert Paud SCAQMD Staff
Veronica Sosa..... SCAQMD Staff
Cynthia Snyder SCAQMD Staff
Vicki White SCAQMD Staff
Jill Whynot SCAQMD Staff
Vasken Yardemian SCAQMD Staff
Alejandra Vega..... SCAQMD Staff
Mei Wang..... SCAQMD Staff