

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 3, 2025

AGENDA NO. 8

PROPOSAL: Issue Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring and Laboratory Equipment

SYNOPSIS: South Coast AQMD FY 2025-26 Annual Budget includes approval to purchase air monitoring and laboratory equipment. This action is to issue purchase orders for air monitoring and laboratory equipment.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, September 12, 2025; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Procurement Manager, in accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure, to issue sole source purchase orders for the air monitoring and laboratory equipment in Table 1, for an estimated amount of \$215,000.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

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Background

The South Coast AQMD air monitoring network consists of 34 sites that collect regulatory data to determine compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and to provide insight on developing strategies for attainment. The network also provides real time data to inform the public and support health-based decisions. A significant portion of the air monitoring and laboratory instrumentation have exceeded its usable lifetime and are in need of replacement. Similarly, instrumentation used in the laboratory for source testing analysis is in disrepair and no longer supported by the manufacturer. It is critical that South Coast AQMD replaces this equipment to meet U.S. EPA quality assurance criteria and to ensure the continued ability to conduct ambient sampling, laboratory analysis, and source test capabilities. The FY 2025-26 adopted budget includes \$215,000 in capital outlay funds for the replacement equipment.

Proposed Purchases through Sole Source Purchase Order

To address the priority air monitoring network operational needs, replacement data loggers for the air monitoring network and a total carbon analyzer for laboratory analysis are essential to maintain regulatory compliance, data continuity, and measurement capability.

Data Loggers

South Coast AQMD's air monitoring network operates 34 air monitoring sites utilizing data loggers as part of U.S. EPA's minimum monitoring requirement to support compliance with NAAQS and emissions strategy development. Data loggers are used for real time reporting of air quality data to U.S. EPA and CARB and are converted to Air Quality Index (AQI) values to provide air pollution data to the public. The monitoring site data loggers are greater than 15 years old and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer beyond the most recent Windows 10 upgrade. The technical specifications of the new data loggers are proprietary and consistent with the existing South Coast AQMD air monitoring network. The estimated cost for up to seven data loggers is \$90,000 (see Table 1).

Total Carbon Analyzer (TCA)

South Coast AQMD's laboratory performs South Coast AQMD Methods 25.1 and 25.3 analysis in support of multiple South Coast AQMD rules. The laboratory currently has one TCA instrument that has exceeded its usable lifetime and needs replacement. The estimated cost for one TCA is \$125,000 (see Table 1).

Sole Source Justifications

Section VIII.B.2 of the Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies four major provisions under which a sole source award may be justified: the sole source request for data loggers is made under VIII.B.2.d (6): Projects requiring compatibility with existing specialized equipment. The monitoring network exclusively uses components from Agilaire LLC for compatibility with existing networks. The sole source request for the Total Carbon Analyzer is made under VIII.B.2.c (1): The unique experience and capabilities of the proposed contractor or contractor team. Shimadzu Scientific Instruments is the only vendor capable and willing to construct and deliver this custom instrument to the South Coast AQMD's unique specification.

Resource Impacts

Sufficient funding is available in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget to purchase the air monitoring and laboratory equipment outlined in this Board letter.

Table 1
FY 2025-26 Capital Outlays Major Object

Description	Qty	Estimated Amount	Contracting Method
Data Loggers	Up to 7	\$90,000	Sole Source
Total Carbon Analyzer	1	\$125,000	Sole Source
Total		\$215,000	