

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 9, 2026

AGENDA NO. 2

PROPOSAL: Approve Recommendations to Revise Governing Board Committees and Advisory Groups

SYNOPSIS: South Coast AQMD has 13 Board Committees and Advisory Groups. In response to a request from Chair Delgado, changes to Board Committees and Advisory Groups are proposed to streamline and enhance overall efficiency of Committee and Advisory Group meetings. This action is to approve changes to Board Committees and Advisory Groups.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, November 14 and December 12, 2025;
Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Close-out Climate Change, Refinery, Marine Port and Finance Committees beginning FY 2026-27; and
2. Pause Local Government and Small Business Advisory Group and Environmental Justice Advisory Group to develop Charter for a Policy Group that will consolidate these two Advisory Groups.

Wayne Nasti
Executive Officer

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Background

South Coast AQMD currently has 13 Board Committee and Advisory Groups. To provide greater efficiency for Board Members and staff, the Chair asked that staff provide recommendations to streamline the Board Committees and Advisory Groups, particularly where there is redundancy with core Committee meetings.

Core Committees

There are currently five core Committee meetings that meet monthly where the membership includes only Board Members. These core Committee meetings play a

crucial role to the overall efficiency of Governing Board meetings as the Committees review information and provide input and guidance to staff before the item is heard at the monthly Board meeting. Staff is not recommending any changes to the five core Committee meetings. A general description of each of these core Committees is described below:

- **Administrative Committee:** Approves the monthly Governing Board meeting agenda and approves recommendations for fiscal items. Provides recommendations for approval of appointments to the Hearing Board.
- **Legislative Committee:** Approves recommendations for the South Coast AQMD's state and federal legislative positions and strategy.
- **Mobile Source Committee:** Receives updates from staff on mobile source and indirect source rules and policies, Air Quality Management Plans, MATES, and CEQA projects and policies. Approves recommendations for fiscal items germane to this Committee.
- **Stationary Source Committee:** Receives updates from staff on stationary source rules and programs, and implementation of AB 617. Approves recommendations for fiscal items related to this Committee.
- **Technology Committee:** Approves recommendations for funding technology demonstration and incentive projects, presentations from vendors and end users that are implementing projects, and receives updates from staff on implementation of Clean Fuels.

Advisory Groups

There are currently two Advisory Groups: Local Government and Small Business Advisory Group (LGSBA) and the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) that meet quarterly. The Board established LGSBA in 1996 to enhance outreach to and assist local governments and small businesses on matters relating to air quality and allow direct input into rulemaking, technology, and policy-making decisions conducted by the South Coast AQMD. The LGSBA Charter allows for 21 members, which includes four South Coast AQMD Board members. There are currently three Board Members and 14 non-Board Members serving on LGSBA. For additional information LGSBA, please refer to [Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group](#).

The Board established an Ethnic Community Advisory Council in 1990 which was restructured into EJAG in 2008 with a focus on air quality and environmental justice issues and to advise the Board on issues related to environmental justice. On May 1, 2009 the Board amended the EJAG charter to increase membership from 20 members to 30 members. The Charter does not establish a specific number of Board Members on EJAG, but state that the EJAG Chair shall be the Chair of the Board or his/her designee. There

are currently three Board Members and 19 non-Board Members serving on EJAG. For additional information on EJAG, please refer to [Environmental Justice Advisory Group](#).

Many of the presentations for LGSBA and EJAG are redundant with presentations provided to the core monthly Committee and Governing Board meetings. Both Advisory Groups have had attendance issues with difficulties meeting quorum to approve minutes. During 2023 to 2025, LGSBA met quorum for 50 percent of the meetings and EJAG met quorum for 25 percent of the meetings. Both Advisory Groups have members that have well exceeded the four-year term specified in their Charters, where 80 percent of members on LGSBA and 50 percent of EJAG members have exceeded the four-year term.

Investment Oversight Committee

The Investment Oversight Committee includes four Board members and three non-Board members. This Committee provides a quarterly report of investments, cash flow and financial market update for the South Coast AQMD. Information presented to the Investment Oversight Committee is unique and provides a financial outlook of potential issues that may be on the horizon.

Ad-Hoc Committees

There are five ad-hoc Committee meetings that are topic specific. These Committees meet on an as needed basis and with the exception of the Personnel Committee, topics in these ad-hoc Committees can be addressed in the core monthly Committee meetings. A summary of the ad-hoc Committees is provided below:

- **Climate Change Committee:** Addresses climate change issues and policies. Issues related to climate change can be addressed in the Mobile Source Committee as zero- and near-zero criteria pollutant emission reduction strategies can concurrently reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions. There are currently five Board Members assigned to the Climate Change Committee.
- **Refinery Committee:** Addresses refinery regulatory and policy issues. Topics covered in the Refinery Committee can be addressed in the Stationary Source Committee. There are currently four Board Members assigned to the Refinery Committee.
- **Marine Port Committee:** Addresses port regulatory and policy issues. Topics covered in the Marine Port Committee can be addressed in the Mobile Source Committee. There are currently four Board Members assigned to the Marine Port Committee.
- **Finance Committee:** Provides financial updates and addresses financial policies for the South Coast AQMD. Quarterly investments and cash flow reports are provided to the Investment Oversight Committee. Other financial reports and

financial policies can be addressed by the Administrative Committee. There are currently three Board Members assigned to the Finance Committee.

- **Personnel Committee:** Addresses personnel issues such as salary and performance appraisals for the Executive Officer and District Counsel. Items discussed are unique to the Personnel Committee and there are two Board Members assigned to this Committee.

Proposal

Staff is recommending that no changes to the core monthly Committee meetings (Administrative, Legislative, Mobile, Stationary, and Technology Committees) as they provide a critical role to ensure Board items are reviewed prior to the Governing Board meeting. Staff is also recommending to maintain the Investment Oversight and Personnel Committees as the role of these two committees is unique and is not redundant with other committees.

Staff is recommending to close-out that the Climate Change, Refinery, Marine Port and Finance Committees as the items in these Committees can be covered in the monthly core Committee meetings. Supervisor Perez recommended that staff continue to focus on the importance of Climate Change, and staff agreed. Staff will work to identify mechanisms to ensure issues related to Climate Change continue to be recognized.

Based in input from the Administrative Committee, staff is recommending to pause LGSBA and EJAG to work on developing a Policy Group. Staff will convene a Steering Committee of interested stakeholders to develop a draft Charter for the Policy Group that will include the purpose and objective of the Policy Group, membership and terms of memberships, reporting structure to other Committees, and other key elements of the Policy Group. Staff will report back to the Administrative Committee in Spring 2026 on the status of the draft Charter.

Resource Impacts

Streamlining Committees and Advisory Groups will reduce staffing time.