

James Chavez

From: Mohan Balagopalan
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:18 PM
To: Clerk of Board
Subject: Re: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Hi,
Thanks for the response from Ms. Roberts. I have no issues for this case to be heard on Consent Calendar. Thanks.

Mohan

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:04:14 PM
To: Mohan Balagopalan <mbalagopalan@aqmd.gov>
Cc: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Subject: FW: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Please see response below

From: Kathryn Roberts <KRoberts@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:01 PM
To: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Dear Clerk of the Board,

The District thanks Mr. Balagopalan for this question and responds as follows:

The District proposes a six month return to the Hearing Board due to continuing uncertainty in the feasibility of an EV Hi-Rail pilot project. This project has had multiple delays due to a lack of vendor/manufacturers willing to produce this highly specialized vehicle. However, if able to be demonstrated an EV Hi-Rail vehicle would produce significant emission reductions, as well as advance the state of technology allowing for future deployment of EVs in a use case where currently only diesel engines can be used. The District believes that this pilot project would be highly beneficial and has agreed to prior extensions related to lack of manufacturer bids, but also acknowledges that if further bid solicitations result in no bids, the EV Pilot Project might need to be abandoned due to infeasibility, and an alternative path to compliance with Rule 1196 for LA Metro adopted in the Order for Abatement. In response to a lack of bids in previous solicitation rounds, LA Metro is currently initializing a sole source procurement process with the vendor RWC Group rather than a competitive solicitation for bids. RWC Group had previously assisted in the specialized design plans for the EV pilot project vehicle and has indicated their ability to undertake and complete the project. The District believes this bid solicitation has a higher likelihood of success than prior bids, but at the time of this hearing, that bid solicitation will not have closed.

The District believes a six month return is needed to ensure review of the completion of the EV Pilot project bid results. A return to the Hearing Board would enable the parties to report on the status of that bid solicitation and, if necessary, propose alternatives to the EV Pilot Project if the latest bid is unsuccessful.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Roberts

Kathryn Roberts, Esq.
Principal Deputy District Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
South Coast Air Quality Management District
Phone: 909.396.2734
Email: kr Roberts@aqmd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email may contain material that is confidential, privileged or attorney work product for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any review, reliance or distribution by other recipients without express permission is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete all copies.

From: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 10:14 AM
To: Kathryn Roberts <KRoberts@aqmd.gov>
Cc: stammr@metro.net
Subject: FW: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

From: Mohan Balagopalan <mbalagopalan@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 10:03 AM
To: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Subject: Re: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Hi,
I have one question regarding another status update hearing on **July 28, 2026**. What new information is expected to be provided during the status update five months from now? Thanks.

Mohan Balagopalan

From: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 7:33 AM
Cc: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Subject: FW: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Good morning,

The parties are requesting to put South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro #5874-2 on consent calendar. Attached are the documents for your review.



sClerk of the Boards
South Coast AQMD

T: (909) 396-2500

F: (909) 396-3317

www.aqmd.gov

From: Kathryn Roberts <KRoberts@aqmd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 5:45 PM
To: Clerk of Board <Front_PC@aqmd.gov>
Cc: Stamm, Ronald [REDACTED]
Subject: South Coast AQMD v. LA Metro (Case 5874-2) - Consent Calendar

Dear Clerk of the Board,

Attached for filing in the above referenced case, for the upcoming Feb. 24, 2026 hearing, please find:

1. Stipulation of the Parties to hear the matter on the Consent Calendar
2. Proposed Findings and Decision for a Modified Stipulated Order for Abatement
3. Declaration of Alan Tang

Consistent with Hearing Board Rule 2, I will submit 8 hard copies of these documents in advance of the hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Roberts

Kathryn Roberts, Esq.
Principal Deputy District Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
South Coast Air Quality Management District
Phone: 909.396.2734
Email: kroberts@aqmd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email may contain material that is confidential, privileged or attorney work product for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any review, reliance or distribution by other recipients without express permission is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete all copies.