



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jane Carney, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Chairman
Greg Adams, L.A. County Sanitation District
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates
Geoffrey Blake, DriLube/All Metals
Eric Busch, Representative, South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Daniel Cunningham, Metal Finishing Association
Barbara Hanna, Council Member, City of Banning
James R. Krausz, Esq., ALA Inland Counties
Steve Mugg, South Orange County Representative, City of Mission Viejo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Felipe Aguirre, Vice Mayor, City of Maywood
Ronald Loveridge, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Vice Chairman
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy
Jacob Haik, Councilwoman Janice Hahn
Angelo Logan, East Yard Communities for EJ
Harold Martinez, Able Industrial Products, Inc.
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal
Todd Priest, Representative, Orange County Business Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

Earl Elrod, Board Member Assistant (*Yates*)

AQMD STAFF:

Leah Alfaro, Office Assistant
Mona Arteaga, Community Relations Manager
Barbara Baird, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Dr. Elaine Chang, Deputy Executive Officer
Dr. Philip Fine, Atmospheric Measurements Manager
Dr. Pom Pom Ganguli, Asst. Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor
Tracy Goss, Program Supervisor
Lourdes Cordova Martinez, Community Relations Manager
Peter Mieras, District Prosecutor
Gregory Ushijima, Air Quality Engineer II

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Jane Carney called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of November 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

November 16, 2007 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Item #5 – Discuss 2007 LGSBA Accomplishments and 2008 Goals & Objectives (agenda item taken out of order)

Dr. Pom Pom Ganguli gave a presentation on the 2007 LGSBA accomplishments and the 2008 LGSBA goals and objectives (see attached).

Mr. Eric Busch asked when the AB 2766 requirements are expected to be brought before the advisory group. Dr. Ganguli replied that a report was made to the Governing Board in September and the outreach contract begins in January. Dr. Elaine Chang added that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will revise guidelines to focus on State Implementation Plan (SIP) credible reductions. Mr. Busch commented that large cities get more funding compared to smaller cities. Dr. Chang replied that cities can pool together their funding with other cities.

Chair Carney commented that the AQMD has hired a contractor to conduct more outreach to local governments in advance of changes by CARB. Dr. Ganguli added that this will be on a parallel track. Dr. Chang stated that CARB is expected to complete their process around June. Dr. Ganguli commented that staff will provide updates to this group on both the outreach portion and the guidance document. Ms. Barbara Hanna commented that the League of California Cities meetings are a good opportunity to present information.

Mr. Greg Adams said that staff should come up with a list of small projects. Dr. Chang replied that CARB is developing this list with AQMD staff. Mr. Steve Mugg asked what criteria “small” would be. Dr. Chang replied that less than \$100,000 is considered small.

Chair Carney asked for an update on fleet rules, implementation of the fleet rules, and control equipment available, following discussions at the mobile source committee meeting.

***Action item:** Add update on fleet rules, implementation of the fleet rules, and control equipment available to 2008 Goals and Objectives.*

Mr. Adams asked to have a discussion on Senate Bill 97: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) - Greenhouse Gas emissions.

***Action item:** Add update on Senate Bill 97: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) - Greenhouse Gas emissions, to 2008 Goals and Objectives.*

Mr. James Krausz asked if there is a way to show which 2007 Accomplishments impacted air quality the most. Mr. Adams and Dr. Ganguli replied that the first five are very important, but it would not be easy since programs and policies impact air quality in different ways.

The advisory group voted to approve the 2007 LGSBA Accomplishments and 2008 Goals & Objectives as amended.

Agenda Item #3 – Update on Proposed Rule 445 – Wood Burning Appliances

Dr. Chang gave a presentation on updates to Proposed Rule 445 – Wood Burning Appliances (see attached).

Mr. Daniel Cunningham asked if residences will be inspected by AQMD staff. Dr. Chang replied that inspections will only be done during the construction phase.

Mr. Steve Mugg asked what would happen if industry uses lower quality firebox materials. Dr. Chang replied that the proposed rule would not require or cause the change in firebox design and added that the wider diameter chimneys used for wood fireplaces are cheaper than the smaller flues used for natural gas exclusively. Mr. Geoff Blake commented that the smoke shelf increases cost to a natural gas fireplace. Mr. Tracy Goss added that the building association requested to build larger fireboxes to sell easier, which does not preclude natural gas with smaller flues. The current proposal reflects this request. He further added that staff would hope that the builder notifies the home purchaser about the design of the fireplace.

Mr. Busch asked if notification letters result from visual inspections or complaints. Dr. Chang replied that the letter would come from the inspector after an inspection. She added that the District just needs one complaint to send out an inspector.

Mr. Krausz asked if pellet stoves are included in this rule. Dr. Chang replied that those stoves are allowed for existing unit replacements.

Mr. Adams asked how the funding assures that the installation is completed properly. Dr. Chang replied that the incentive program would require vendors to include the installation as part of the package. She added that this also ensures the equipment is installed in this area.

Agenda Item #4 – Update on Actions to Enhance Future Response Capabilities to Southern California Wildfires

Dr. Philip Fine gave a presentation on Actions to Enhance Future Response Capabilities to Southern California Wildfires (see attached).

Chair Carney asked what the portable monitors will measure besides particulate matter (PM). Dr. Fine replied that the monitors measure PM_{2.5} and can also measure meteorological data.

Ms. Barbara Hanna asked if there is anything we can learn from the California Department of Forestry or any other agency. Dr. Fine replied that there are many websites with information, including airnow.gov.

Mr. Busch asked how long it took before staff saw elevated levels of PM from the fires. Dr. Fine replied that the elevated levels were seen for the duration of the fires and were back to normal after a couple weeks.

Ms. Mona Arteaga asked if the AQMD has links to other websites so people are aware of disaster centers or other resources. Dr. Fine replied that staff will look into that and added that other sites may have already consolidated the links.

Mr. Krausz asked if there is much difference between the 24 hour and continuous monitors and if this will make attainment more difficult. Dr. Fine replied that there are some differences, but that EPA is looking at resolving the issues. He added that staff will move some monitors together to gather data for several years on the differences in the readings.

Agenda Item #6 – LGSBA Calendar

Chair Carney discussed the 2008 LGSBA meeting schedule and the conflict with the Mobile Source and Stationary Source Committee meetings. She proposed to change the LGSBA meeting time from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. There was no opposition to the change.

Agenda Item #7 – Update on Climate Change Activities

Dr. Chang gave an update on Climate Change Activities (see attached).

Chair Carney commented that at the Legislative Committee there was a report on the Senate Climate Security Act which brought up the issue of a national cap and trade system and the possibility of states setting more restrictive standards.

Agenda Item #8 - Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities

Mr. Busch commented that the South Bay Cities Council of Governments was interested in joint grants with the Municipal Water Districts for dry cleaners switching to professional wet cleaning and reducing water usage.

Agenda Item #9 - Other Business

No other business.

Agenda Item #10 - Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item #11 - Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

