

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 3, 2011

AGENDA NO. 11

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights April 2011 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: Not Applicable

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.
Executive Officer

OA:AG:MC:DM

Background

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for April 2011. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center), Business Assistance and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Governments.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which staff participated during April 2011. These events involve communities which suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

- On April 13, staff participated in the first Clean Communities Plan (CCP) Working Group for San Bernardino, where the CCP pilot project in San Bernardino was discussed. Air quality related issues were highlighted as well

as projects or programs where progress has been made. The next steps for the CCP were outlined as well.

- On April 20, staff attended an Environmental Justice Task Force meeting hosted by California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) in the Coachella Valley. Among the issues discussed at the meeting, were odors affecting the City of Mecca in Coachella Valley. Staff provided information on the upcoming Town Hall meeting.
- On April 21, staff assisted with and attended the CCP Quest Tour in the City of San Bernardino. Staff led members of the CCP Working Group and other stakeholders on a tour of the City of San Bernardino to view first hand both issues and solutions related to air quality. Supervisor Josie Gonzales attended the tour and provided a narrative to facilitate the discussion and identify items of interest.
- On April 28, staff organized and staffed a Town Hall meeting in Mecca to provide the community with an update on District activities regarding the odor issues affecting their residents and businesses. In addition to providing information, staff gathered information from the community on environmental and public health concerns.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that AQMD sponsors alone, or in partnership with others.

Attendees typically receive the following information: tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects, clean air technologies and their deployment, invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events, ways to participate in AQMD rule and policy development and assistance in resolving air quality-related problems. The events that AQMD staff attended and provided information and updates include:

- April 1-3 Redlands Bicycle Classic, Redlands
- April 6 Get Clean & Green: Ways to Get Cash for a New Machine Event, Fontana
- April 6 Orange Coast College Green Energy Day, Orange Coast College
- April 7 San Fernando Valley Clean Air For Seniors Event, Northridge
- April 8 San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network Luncheon, Alhambra
- April 9 Frontier Project's Earth Day, Rancho Cucamonga
- April 9 Los Angeles Sanitation District's Earth Day 2011, Whittier

- April 9 Children’s Hospital of Orange County Air Power Games Event, San Ana College
- April 10 Cucamonga Valley Water District Earth Day, Rancho Cucamonga
- April 10 Islamic Institute of Orange County Earth Day, Anaheim
- April 13 Mayfair Middle/High School Career Fair, Lakewood
- April 13 East Los Angeles College Earth Day, East Los Angeles
- April 14 Business Sustainability Expo: Go Green to Make Green, San Juan Capistrano
- April 16 Santa Ana Earth and Health Festival, Centennial Park, Santa Ana
- April 16 Earth Day Celebration and Concert, Manhattan Beach
- April 20 Earth Day 2011, Century City
- April 20 Earth Night in the Garden 2011, Western Municipal Water District, Riverside
- April 21 Sustainability Open House, Central Library, San Bernardino
- April 21 2011 Conference on Aging, First Church of Nazarene, Pasadena
- April 22 See Green Family Night, Newhart Middle School, Mission Viejo
- April 22 Wilshire Center Earth Day, Wilshire
- April 22 Earth Day at California Institute of Technology, Pasadena
- April 22 Newhart Middle School Eco Event
- April 23 Monterey Park Earth Day Town Hall Event
- April 23 6th Annual Concert in the Park for the Environment, Baldwin Hills
- April 23 Desert EcoFest, Palm Desert
- April 25 Community Meeting on Inglewood Oil Field, Los Angeles
- April 28 San Bernardino City/County Conference, Lake Arrowhead
- April 29 Upland Lemon Festival & Business Expo, Upland
- April 29 UCLA Health Briefing, Los Angeles
- April 29 Healthy Lifestyle Initiative Conference, Los Angeles
- April 30 Sage Hill High School Economic Fair, Newport Coast
- April 30 Claremont Earth Day Celebration

Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services

AQMD receives requests for staff to speak on a variety of air quality-related issues. The requests come from organizations such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. AQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

- On April 15, staff provided a presentation on the AQMD and air pollution to 30 students at San Fernando High School.

- On April 19, staff provided a presentation on the AQMD and air monitoring to over 300 scientists, engineers, and support staff at the Naval, Surface Warfare Center in Norco.
- On April 25, staff provided a presentation on the AQMD and air pollution to 33 students at Gary High School in Pomona.
- On April 27, staff provided a presentation on the AQMD and air pollution to 30 students at Hollencrest Middle School in West Covina.

Communication Center Statistics

The Communication Center handles calls on the AQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of April 2011 are summarized on the following page:

Main Line Calls	3,303
1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	1,839
After Hours Calls*	378
Spanish Line Calls	41
Total Phone Calls	5,561

* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and after 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Public Information Center Statistics

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of April 2011 is summarized below:

Visitor Transactions	358
Packages Mailed Out	2
Calls Received by PIC Staff	57
Calls to Automated System	1,505
Total Phone Calls	1,562

E-mail Advisories Sent 40,965

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

AQMD assists businesses by notifying them of proposed regulations so they can participate in the development of these rules. AQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Additionally, staff provides personalized assistance to

small businesses both over the telephone and by on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Conducted 26 free on-site consultations
- Provided permit application assistance to 170 companies
- Issued 15 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ✓ Building/property management | ✓ Abrasive blasting |
| ✓ Gas stations | ✓ Coffee roasting |
| ✓ Auto body shops | ✓ Restaurants |
| ✓ Metal plating | ✓ Dry cleaners |
| ✓ Auto repair | ✓ Metal parts manufacturing |

OUTREACH TO BUSINESS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Field visits and communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

Alhambra, Agoura Hills, Aliso Viejo, Anaheim, Arcadia, Artesia, Avalon, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Banning, Beaumont, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Beverly Hills, Big Bear Lake, Bradbury, Brea, Buena Park, Burbank, Calabasas, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Carson, Cathedral City, Cerritos, Chino, Chino Hills, Claremont, Coachella, Colton, Commerce, Compton, Corona, Costa Mesa, Covina, Cudahy, Culver City, Cypress, Dana Point, Desert Hot Springs, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, El Monte, El Segundo, Fontana, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Gardena, Glendale, Glendora, Grand Terrace, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Hemet, Hermosa Beach, Hidden Hills, Highland, Huntington Beach, Huntington Park, Indian Wells, Indio, Industry, Inglewood, Irvine, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Habra, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Palma, La Puente, La Quinta, La Verne, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Elsinore, Lake Forest, Lakewood, Lawndale, Loma Linda, Lomita, Long Beach, Los Alamitos, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Malibu, Manhattan Beach, Maywood, Menifee, Mission Viejo, Monrovia, Montclair, Montebello, Monterey Park, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Newport Beach, Norco, Norwalk, Ontario, Orange, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Pasadena, Perris, Pico Rivera, Placentia, Pomona, Rancho Cucamonga, Rancho Mirage, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rancho Santa Margarita, Redlands, Redondo Beach, Rialto, Riverside, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Bernardino, San Clemente, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Gabriel, San Jacinto, San Juan Capistrano, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica, Seal Beach, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, South

Pasadena, Stanton, Temecula, Temple City, Torrance, Tustin, Upland, Vernon, Villa Park, Walnut, West Covina, West Hollywood, Westlake Village, Westminster, Whittier, Wildomar, Yorba Linda, and Yucaipa.

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following offices:

- Congress Member Judy Chu
- Congress Member Lucille Roybal-Allard
- State Senator Kevin De Leon
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- Assembly Speaker John Perez
- Assembly Member Tim Donnelly
- Assembly Member Mike Eng
- Assembly Member Mike Morell

Staff represented AQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following groups:

Alhambra Hospital Medical Center
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
American Association of Retired Persons, Sunland
American Lung Association, San Bernardino
Baldwin Hills Senior Center
Chinese American Real Estate Professional Association, Monterey Park
Claremont Chamber of Commerce
Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Coachella Valley Economic Partnership
Compton Chamber of Commerce
Corona Area Chamber of Commerce
Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce
Eastern Municipal Water District, Perris
Fontana Chamber of Commerce
Gardena Senior Citizens Bureau
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce
Indio Chamber of Commerce
Inglewood Ministers Association
Inland Empire League of Cities
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Pasadena
International Union of Operating Engineers, Pasadena
Irwindale Chamber of Commerce

Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments
League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division
Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches
Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce
Mountain Communities Chamber of Commerce
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
Orange County Business Council
Orange County Council of Governments
Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce
Pasadena Highlands Senior Facility
Pierce College, Woodland Hills
Riverside County Planning Commission
Salton Sea Stakeholders
San Bernardino Associated Governments
San Bernardino Working Group
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors
San Fernando Community Adult School
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Parent Association
Seasons Senior Living, Redondo Beach
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
South Mountain Communities Chamber of Commerce
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
South West Legislative Council, Wildomar
Southern California Association of Governments
Spectrum Athletic Clubs, Los Angeles
St. John Baptist del la Salle Catholic Church, Granada Hills
Upland Chamber of Commerce
University of California, Los Angeles
Western Riverside Council of Governments