

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 4, 2014

AGENDA NO. 11

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the February 2014 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: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.
Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for February 2014. 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 the month of February. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

February 5

- Staff participated in Riverside County Department of Health, Healthy City Resolutions Working Group meeting and provided information on the Check Before You Burn program and the special 2014 Clean Car Buying Guide Advisor.

February 13

- Staff attended the Health Assessment Resource Centers (HARC) Triennial Data Release event for the Coachella Valley. HARC's data release included information on air pollutants and respiratory issues.

February 18

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Eastern Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Taskforce meeting in Mecca. Staff informed participants about the AB 1318 weatherization program, school filter installations, Clean Air Award nominations, and recent meetings and actions regarding Rule 444 agricultural burning.

February 19

- Staff participated in the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting and provided information on the Check Before You Burn program, air quality forecasts and advisories, and the SCAQMD's Take a Tour Day.
- Staff represented SCAQMD at the American Lung Association's Inland Valley's Reception for Healthy Growth Leaders which promoted healthy growth and planning in the Inland Empire.

February 27

- Staff attended a meeting held in Long Beach with Tesoro Wilmington Refinery to discuss a recent Health Risk Assessment.
- Staff presented on air quality issues, the CCP and other related programs.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either 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 SCAQMD's rule and policy development.
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

The events that SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates include:

February 7

- 12th Annual “Connecting the Evolution of Electricity to Black History,” Celebrating Business and Community Partnerships Event, Edison’s Energy Education Center, Irwindale.

February 14

- STEM Day Event, Mesa View Middle School, Calimesa.

February 24

- California Black Veterans Summit, California State African American Museum, Los Angeles.

February 27

Tesoro Wilmington Refinery Community Meeting, Villages at Cabrillo, Long Beach.

February 28

- South Bay Cities Council of Governments Annual General Assembly, Carson Community Center.
- Faithful Central Bible Center Black History Luncheon, Trinity Building, Inglewood.

SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES

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

February 18

- Staff presented information on SCAQMD’s Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Control Clean Air Technologies and provided a tour of the agency’s laboratory to six representatives from the Beijing Municipal Research Institute of Environmental Protection, China.

February 20

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, gave a tour of the agency’s Diamond Bar headquarters, laboratory, and display of alternative fuel vehicles to 30 representatives from the Pasadena Art Center of Design.

February 27

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD and air quality to 20 attendees at the Kiwanis Club of Carson meeting, held at the Gardena Elks Lodge in Gardena.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of February 2014 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,534
1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	1,380
After Hours Calls*	492
Spanish Line Calls	<u>26</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	4,432

* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after 7:00 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 February 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	54
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,102</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	1,156

Visitor Transactions	228
E-Mail Advisories Sent	43,995

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency’s rule development process. SCAQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and via on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Provided permit application assistance to 120 companies
- Issued 12 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

Restaurants	Amusement park	Wood chipping service
Hotel	Dry cleaners	Furniture manufacturer
Cheese manufacturer	Nail salons	Heater manufacturer
Mulch manufacturer	Auto body shops	Crane service provider

OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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

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

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

- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congressman Gary Miller
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congressman Jared Huffman
- State Senator Jerry Hill
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Curt Hagman
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Alan Mansoor
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Assembly Member Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron
- Assembly Member Don Wagner

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

American Cancer Society, San Gabriel Valley
American Lung Association, Inland Valley
Association of California Cities, Orange County
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
California Rural Legal Assistance Incorporated
Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Coachella Valley Unified School District
Corona Chamber of Commerce
Eastern Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Taskforce
Environmental Justice Task Force, Mecca
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
Indio Chamber of Commerce
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
League of California Cities, Riverside County Division
League of Women Voters, Foothill Chapter
Los Angeles County Asthma Coalition
Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners
 Metrolink, Los Angeles
 Mt. San Jacinto Community College
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
 North Orange County Legislative Alliance
 Omnitrans Transportation Agency, San Bernardino County
 Orange County Business Council
 Orange County Council of Governments
 Orange County Transportation Authority
 Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce
 Regional Chamber Alliance

- La Mirada Chamber of Commerce
- Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
- Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce
- Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce
- Whittier Chamber of Commerce

 Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
 Riverside County Health Coalition
 Riverside County Transportation Commission
 Riverside County Water Quality Control Board
 San Bernardino Associated Governments
 San Bernardino Valley College
 San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
 Southwest California Legislative Council

- Temecula Chamber of Commerce
- Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce
- Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
- Wildomar Chamber of Commerce

 Southern California Association of Governments
 Southern California Edison Company
 University of California, Irvine
 Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert, Palm Springs
 Upland Chamber of Commerce
 U.S. Green Building Council, Inland Empire Division
 Western Riverside County Council of Governments
 Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter, Hemet
- Southwest Chapter, Meniffee