

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 8, 2016

AGENDA NO. 8

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights November 2015 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: an 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.

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Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for November 2015. 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 SCAQMD staff participated during the month of November 2015. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

November 5

- Staff attended San Bernardino County's Healthy Communities meeting in Yucaipa and provided an update on SCAQMD programs in San Bernardino including the commercial electric lawn mowers and other issues of interest.

November 9

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Environmental Justice Annual Luncheon in Jurupa Valley, hosted by the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ). At the event, which recognized community leaders for their contributions to environmental justice, including air quality issues, staff also learned about more about local projects and programs addressing environmental injustices.

November 10

- Staff partnered with the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma to host SCAQMD's second Environmental Justice Community Partnership event "The Impact of Air Pollution on Human Health." Approximately 100 people from local community members to representatives of community groups, government agencies, elected official offices (local, state, and federal), health institutes, and academic institutions attended the event.

November 18

- Staff attended the San Gabriel Valley City Managers' Meeting in Monrovia which included representatives from different cities throughout the San Gabriel Valley and informed attendees about SCAQMD's environmental justice efforts.

November 19

- Staff participated in the Environmental Justice Toxic Sites Bus Tour in Pacoima, hosted by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and Pacoima Beautiful. The tour visited multiple sites that community members have identified as problematic, due to the nature of their operations/activity and based on public health impacts of the facilities. Most community complaints were related to air quality concerns such as foul odors and dust.
- Staff attended the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting in Colton and provided a brief update on the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan.

November 30

- Staff assisted with the logistical coordination of the AB 2588 public meeting related to Gerdau, a steel recycling facility in Rancho Cucamonga, and provided information to residents and stakeholders on the facility's risk assessment process.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year SCAQMD staff engage with thousands of residents, providing valuable information about the agency, incentive programs, and ways individuals can help reduce air pollution through events and meetings sponsored solely by SCAQMD 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;
- SCAQMD incentive programs;
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD's rule and policy development; and
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates at the following events:

November 7

- American Lung Association's Lung Force Walk, Mason Regional Park, Irvine.
- Public Hearing Regarding Rainbow Transfer Recycling, Oak View Community Center, Huntington Beach.

November 8

- American Lung Association's Lung Force Walk, Mathis Brothers Furniture parking lot, Ontario.
- American Lung Association's Lung Force Walk, Exposition Park, Los Angeles.

November 14

- City of Diamond Bar's ECO Expo, SCAQMD parking lot, Diamond Bar.

November 16-19

- Fuel Cell Seminar and Energy Fair, Los Angeles.

November 17

- SCAQMD Community Meeting, Dana Middle School, Hawthorne.

November 20

- San Gabriel Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Legislative Power Luncheon, Diamond Bar.

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.

November 10

- Professor Jong-In Dong, from the University of Seoul, Korea, visited SCAQMD where he received an overview on the agency, air monitoring, and toured both the SCAQMD laboratory and an air monitoring station in Rubidoux.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line, the Spanish line, and after hours calls to each of those lines. Calls received in the month of November 2015 were:

Calls to SCAQMD’s Main Line and 1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	3,972
Calls to SCAQMD’s Spanish-language Line	<u>28</u>
Total Calls	4,000

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

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

Calls Received by PIC Staff	123
Calls to Automated System	<u>871</u>
Total Calls	994
Visitor Transactions	343
E-Mail Advisories Sent	495

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 167 companies
- Issued 16 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Dry Cleaners	Printing Facilities
Chemical Distributor	Gas Stations	Cabinet Manufacturer
Engineering	Restaurants	Metal Plating Facilities
Construction	Architecture	Medical Facilities

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

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

Alhambra	Duarte	Newport Beach
Anaheim	Fountain Valley	Murrieta
Arcadia	Glendora	Pasadena
Azusa	Huntington Park	Pomona
Aliso Viejo	Irvine	Rancho Cucamonga
Baldwin Park	La Cañada Flintridge	Redlands
Bear Valley	Laguna Hills	Riverside
Beaumont	Laguna Woods	Rosemead
Big Bear	La Habra	San Dimas
Buena Park	La Verne	San Gabriel
Claremont	Los Angeles	Sierra Madre
Colton	Long Beach	South El Monte
Covina	Lynwood	Temple City
Compton	Monterey Park	Tustin
Commerce	Monrovia	West Covina
Diamond Bar	Moreno Valley	Walnut
		Yucaipa

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following State and Federal Offices:

- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
- U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert

- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Connie Leyva
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Fran Pavley
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Tom Daly
- Assembly Member Cristina Garcia
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Assembly Member Miguel Santiago

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided updates or a presentation to the following governmental agencies and business organizations:

Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
 Bear Valley Council of Governments
 Coachella Valley Council of Governments
 Eastern Municipal Water District, Perris
 Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
 Irwindale Chamber of Commerce
 Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
 Orange County Council of Governments
 Orange County Business Council
 Riverside County Transportation Commission
 Riverside County Active Transportation Network
 Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
 San Bernardino Associated Governments
 San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce
 San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
 San Gabriel Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

Southern California Association of Governments
Southern California Edison
Southern California Gas Company
South Riverside County Association of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Western Riverside Council of Governments
Western Riverside Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter
- San Gorgonio Pass Chapter

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

American Diabetes Association, Riverside
American Lung Association

- Inland Empire
- Orange County
- Los Angeles

Beaumont Unified School District
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, Jurupa Valley
Concordia University Foundation
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
Long Beach Alliance for Children's Asthma
Murrieta Valley School District
Ocean View School District, Huntington Beach
Placentia Linda Hospital Medical Center
Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council
Pomona Unified School District
Rio Hondo College, Whittier
Riverside County Department of Public Health
Riverside County Health Coalition
Riverside Medical Clinic
San Bernardino County Healthy Communities
Southwest Health Care System, Murrieta
SCORE Association, San Gabriel Valley Chapter
University of Southern California
University of California, Riverside