

South Coast Air Quality Management District
Best Available Control Technology
Scientific Review Committee Charter
(Adopted December 2016) (Amended February 1, 2019)

History

In March 1994, the SCAQMD Governing Board initiated a program to update and revise the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) Guidelines. As part of this update, the Board established requirements for public review and comment. The BACT Scientific Review Committee (BACT SRC) was created to assist SCAQMD staff with the policy issues used to develop and implement BACT procedures in the BACT Methodology Report. The BACT SRC was initially convened in July 1994 and participated in a series of public meetings. Due to their contributions to the BACT Methodology Report, the BACT SRC was officially established by the Governing Board as a standing committee on September 8, 1995 to review matters dealing with BACT.

This BACT SRC Charter has been adopted to formalize the BACT SRC membership and its role in the development of the BACT Guidelines.

Mission of the BACT Scientific Review Committee

The BACT SRC shall consist of experts in the field of air quality who shall assist and advise SCAQMD staff to ensure the BACT Guidelines are developed in a public process that is clear, consistent, and based on sound, technical information and data.

Goals

1. Contribute to the development of the BACT Guidelines through the public process;
2. Provide SCAQMD staff with technical expertise regarding issues pertinent to the proposed BACT updates; and
3. Advise SCAQMD staff to create a more certain and predictable BACT determination process.

Objectives

The BACT Scientific Review Committee shall achieve its goals by meeting periodically when BACT Guidelines updates are under development by:

1. Providing verbal and written comments to SCAQMD staff regarding proposed BACT Guidelines presented at the BACT SRC meetings;
2. Providing technical knowledge and promoting discussion regarding technologies for proposed BACT Guidelines;
3. Assisting SCAQMD staff to ensure proposed BACT Guidelines are clear and consistent with local, state, and federal air quality requirements; and
4. Advising SCAQMD staff on the development, interpretation and implementation of policies and procedures of the BACT Guidelines.

All objectives shall be achieved by members in a manner consistent with the Ethics Training pursuant to Assembly Bill 1234. In addition, the objectives shall adhere to the requirements of California Health and Safety Code 40440.11.

Membership Qualifications and Composition

The BACT SRC shall consist of up to 19 members currently or previously practicing their profession in the technical or scientific field of air quality. The original BACT SRC consisted of public and private professionals from industry, trade associations, academia, air quality practitioners, other governmental agencies, and SCAQMD Advisory personnel. The members of the BACT SRC shall consist of:

- Four members from regulated industries
- Three members from trade associations
- Five members from other governmental agencies
- Three members from academic institutions
- Four members who are air quality practitioners (industry consultants or environmental groups)

The membership will be recommended to and appointed by the Executive Officer. If a suitable member cannot be found for one of the membership categories, then that spot shall remain vacant. BACT SRC members will serve a two-year term with the possibility of being reappointed for extended two-year terms.

BACT SRC members may propose alternate members within their same organization to serve when the primary member is absent. Alternates must be approved by the Executive Officer.

SCAQMD shall post a list of BACT SRC membership on the SCAQMD website. To expedite the filling of vacancies, SCAQMD staff shall maintain a list of interested parties for the BACT SRC membership.

Operational Guidelines

Agendas for meetings will be prepared, posted and distributed to BACT SRC members and the public in accordance with legal requirements (Brown Act). Teleconference locations shall also be noticed in accordance with legal requirements. When applicable, SCAQMD staff shall provide proposed BACT Guidelines updates to the members seven days prior to the BACT SRC meeting. Proposed BACT Guidelines updates will also be made available to the attending public at the BACT SRC meeting.

During BACT SRC meetings:

- SCAQMD staff shall present proposed BACT determinations and proposed BACT Guidelines amendments, as well as address any continuing or unresolved items from the previous BACT SRC meeting,

- The BACT SRC members may comment on the proposed design, process and procedures of the BACT Guidelines, as well as contribute knowledge and experience to discuss related technical issues;
- The public will also have an opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed BACT determinations and Guidelines updates; however,
- Past permitting decisions shall not be discussed at the BACT SRC meeting unless it is pertinent to the current proposal.

The BACT SRC meeting shall commence a 30-day public comment period for the proposed BACT Guidelines during which written comments may be submitted to SCAQMD BACT staff.

All BACT SRC members and alternates shall be required to maintain current AB 1234 biennial Ethics Training.

Reporting

The Governing Board's Stationary Source Committee shall be the BACT and BACT SRC Committee Board's liaison. SCAQMD BACT staff shall provide a report to the Stationary Source Committee once proposed amendments to the BACT Guidelines have been presented at a public BACT SRC meeting initiating a 30-day comment period followed by a final public BACT SRC meeting.

Brown Act

As a standing committee created by the SCAQMD Governing Board, the BACT Scientific Review Committee meetings and its membership are subject to the requirements of the Brown Act. All SCAQMD public meeting and notification protocols will be followed.