

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 5, 2024

AGENDA NO. 12

REPORT: Climate Change Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Climate Change Committee held a meeting on Friday, December 15, 2023. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Receive and file.

V. Manuel Perez, Chair  
Climate Change Committee

IM:rb

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### **Committee Members**

Present: Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Committee Chair  
Board Member Veronica Padilla-Campos, Committee Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Michael Cacciotti  
Supervisor Andrew Do  
Supervisor Curt Hagman  
Absent: Councilmember José Luis Solache

### **Call to Order**

Committee Chair Perez called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

For additional details of the Climate Change Committee Meeting, please refer to the [Webcast](#).

### **ROLL CALL**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

#### **1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Committee Chair Perez opened the meeting describing four key priorities for this committee: (1) collaboration and partnerships; (2) zero emissions infrastructure; (3) workforce development; and (4) pursuing funding - with an overarching goal of addressing affordability and ensuring disadvantaged communities are not left behind.

Supervisor Hagman expressed concern about limited resources and that pushing too fast could result in businesses leaving the area without significantly affecting climate change. He also expressed a desire to coordinate with CARB to level the playing field throughout the state, and emphasized the importance that the agency continues to focus on our primary mission. Councilmember Cacciotti stated the importance of engaging faith-based communities. Supervisor Do stated that climate change is one of the most important issues we all face, and expressed support for electrification. Executive Officer Wayne Nastri stated that there are many harmonious efforts between improving air quality and climate change, and looks forward to working with the committee on the key priorities outlined by the Committee Chair. For additional details, please refer to the webcast at 10:05.

**2. Climate Change Impact on Southern California Air (Agenda Item #3 was taken out of order)**

Dr. Alex Hall, the University of California, Los Angeles, presented an overview of climate change and its effects in our region. Committee Chair Perez inquired about climate change absent human causes and the history of the Salton Sea. Dr. Hall described differences between natural variation and human causes and the effects of climate change on the Salton Sea.

Committee Vice Chair Padilla-Campos and Vice Chair Cacciotti inquired about the interaction between climate change and weather. Dr. Hall explained that there is less scientific certainty about how climate change affects winds, such as Santa Ana winds and that warming increases precipitation, and does lead to increased severity of hurricanes and other weather events, even if it does not cause all extreme weather events. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 38:00.

**3. Overview of Regulatory and Policy Framework for Climate Change**

Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer/Planning, Rule Development and Implementation presented an overview of regulations and policies related to climate change. Committee Chair Perez questions about how other countries are embracing climate change policies. Dr. Rees replied that it varies by country and their local economic conditions. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast.

Supervisor Hagman commented on the potential for regulations becoming so stringent that our region could become unaffordable and not competitive with neighboring areas. Mr. Nastri responded that our region has traditionally been a leader in developing air quality regulations and investing in cleaner technologies, and that our regional economy remains strong. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 1:28:40.

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, commented about a concern with methane as a climate pollutant.

**4. Overview of U.S. E.P.A. Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG)**

Lisa Tanaka O’Malley, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Legislative, Public Affairs and Media presented an overview of South Coast AQMD efforts to pursue CPRG funding. Committee Chair Perez expressed appreciation for staff efforts and mentioned that funding formulas for many programs are expected to change to address climate change. Ms. Tanaka O’Malley and Mr. Nastri replied that coordination efforts are under way, including with local cities and counties, industry, state government, and key industries. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 2:06:25.

Mr. Eder expressed support for solar.

**5. Next Steps**

Mr. Nastri stated that in addition to the priorities described by the committee, staff would be revisiting the South Coast AQMD Climate Change Policy, evaluating how climate benefits can be presented during rulemaking, and reporting back to committee on funding efforts. Committee Chair Perez re-iterated his priorities for this committee and expressed a desire to survey the Board to identify their priorities for climate change work, and asked that the committee meet three times a year. Councilmember Cacciotti requested renewed efforts to pursue collaborative efforts with faith-based organizations on climate change, and also noted that investments in cleaner technologies can help the economy by shifting spending away from fuels to other activities. Committee Vice-Chair Padilla-Campos saw benefits in reaching out to faith-based organizations and also asked to center the work of this committee on equity. For additional details, please refer to the Webcast beginning at 2:37:45.

Mr. Eder stated his support for community-based participatory budgeting.

**6. Other Business**

There was no other business to report.

**7. Public Comment Period**

Mr. Eder expressed concern with how climate impacts are evaluated. For additional details, please refer the Webcast at 2:50:00.

**8. Next Meeting Date**

The next regular Climate Change Committee meeting will be scheduled in approximately four months at a date to be determined.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

**Attachment**

Attendance Record

## ATTACHMENT 1

### **SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE MEETING Attendance –December 15, 2023**

Supervisor J. Manuel Perez..... South Coast AQMD Board Member  
Councilmember Michael Cacciotti..... South Coast AQMD Board Member  
Supervisor Andrew Do ..... South Coast AQMD Board Member  
Supervisor Curt Hagman..... South Coast AQMD Board Member  
Board Member Padilla-Campos ..... South Coast AQMD Board Member

Uduak-Joe Ntuk..... Board Consultant (Solache)  
Andrew Silva..... Board Consultant (Dawson)  
Amy Wong ..... Board Consultant (Padilla-Campos)

Mark Abramowitz..... Community Environmental Services  
K. Barker ..... Public Member  
BOS 4<sup>th</sup> District ..... Los Angeles County  
Ramine Cromartie..... WSPA  
Jessi Davis ..... Public Member  
Helena DuPont..... California Strategies  
Harvey Eder..... Public Solar Power Coalition  
Alex Hall ..... UCLA  
AJ..... Public Member  
Gillian Kass ..... Ramboll  
Melissa McMeechan ..... Ramboll  
Estefania Navarro ..... County of Riverside  
Robert Nguyen..... Public Member  
Elease Stemp ..... UCLA  
Scott Weaver ..... Ramboll  
YY..... Public Member

Jason Aspell..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Barbara Baird ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Rachel Ballon ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Lara Brown..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Cindy Bustillos ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Erika Chavez ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Phillip Crabbe, III..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Javier Enriquez ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Christian Fielding ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Scott Gallegos..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Melissa Gamoning ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Bayron Gilchrist ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
De Groenveld ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Anissa Heard-Johnson ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Aaron Katzenstein ..... South Coast AQMD Staff

Angela Kim ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
David Lam..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Howard Lee ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Hay Lo..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Cristina Lopez ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Jason Low..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Ian MacMillan ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Karin Manwaring..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
James McCreary ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Mojtaba Moghani ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Ron Moskowitz ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Susan Nakamura ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Wayne Nastri ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Vasileios Papapostolou ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Dan Penoyer ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Sarah Rees ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Valerie Rivera..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Paul Rodriguez ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Ma Fe Ruivivar..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Diana Thai..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Paul Wright ..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Alice Yang..... South Coast AQMD Staff  
Chris Yu ..... South Coast AQMD Staff