



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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DRAFT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Thursday May 25, 2023

1:00 p.m.

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Ian MacMillan, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, Planning, Rule Development and Implementation (PRDI), welcomed all participants. South Coast AQMD staff, CARB staff, and AQMP Advisory Group members were introduced. Since a quorum of AQMP Advisory Group members was not present, the minutes from the March 24, 2022 meeting were not eligible for approval.

Comments from Advisory Group and Staff Responses:

No comments from the Advisory Group members on this agenda item.

Comments from Public and Staff Responses:

No comments from the Public on this agenda item.

2. PM_{2.5} Trends in the South Coast Air Basin and Design Values

Dr. Scott Epstein, Program Supervisor, PRDI, presented PM_{2.5} trends in the South Coast Air Basin and factors that influence ambient PM_{2.5} levels.

Comments from the Advisory Group and Staff Responses:

Curtis Coleman inquired regarding PM speciation data for the near-road monitors. Dr. Epstein responded that while the near-road monitors do not have their own speciation data, neighboring monitors with speciation data are used for comparison. Concentrations are about 1 µg/m³ higher at the near-road monitors due to roadway impacts such as road dust and direct PM emissions. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 19:38.

Curtis Coleman asked whether diesel particulates are expected to decrease over time due to air pollution controls on trucks. Dr. Sang-Mi Lee, Planning and Rules Manager, PRDI, responded that there are multiple factors affecting near-road PM levels, including road dust and tailpipe emissions. Preliminary data shows that PM_{2.5} concentration differences between near-road sites and their partner neighborhood sites such as Mira Loma are decreasing, reflecting reductions in tailpipe emissions. However, there are also non-tailpipe emissions such as tire and brake wear that contribute to PM emissions. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 21:20.

Comments from the Public and Staff Responses:

No comments from the Public on this agenda item.

3. SIP Revision to Attain the 2012 Annual PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard in the South Coast Air Basin

Dr. Lee presented background information and introduced preliminary control concepts for the annual PM2.5 attainment plan.

Comments from the Advisory Group and Staff Responses:

David Rothbart inquired regarding the emissions inventory and if the control strategy relies on NOx reductions. Dr. Lee responded that the major contributing source categories depend on which pollutant is being addressed. NOx is an important precursor and the control strategy seeks co-benefits from NOx reductions. PM also has other contributing sources such as ammonia, SOx, VOC, and direct PM2.5 emissions and each of these precursors have different major contributing source categories. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 40:10.

David Rothbart noted that relying on CARB and U.S. EPA for reductions from the mobile sector could be problematic because the timeline to achieve most of the reductions is past the attainment date. Mr. MacMillan agreed with the concern, but noted that stationary sources that directly emit PM2.5 are also important contributors. Future AQMP Advisory Group meetings will address the inventory and discuss major sources of PM2.5 which informs the control strategy. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 41:20.

Bill LaMarr inquired if U.S. EPA is still considering lowering the annual PM2.5 standard of 12 µg/m³. Dr. Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer, PRDI, responded that U.S. EPA is considering strengthening the standard to within the range of 9-10 µg/m³. U.S. EPA is in the process of reviewing comments and finalizing reconsideration of the standard, with a decision expected to be made by the end of this year. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 42:55.

Dan McGivney inquired regarding the amount of emission reductions needed in the South Coast Air Basin to attain the standard. Mr. MacMillan responded that the inventory and reductions needed are still under development and will be presented at a future meeting. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 43:55.

David Rothbart asked how PM2.5 levels in the South Coast Air Basin compare to those in other parts of the country and if other regions also have near-road monitoring. Dr. Lee responded that near-road monitoring is required by U.S. EPA across the country. However, the South Coast Air Basin is the only region with a near-road monitor as the design site. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 44:40.

Comments from the Public and Staff Responses:

Mark Abramowitz inquired regarding withdrawal of the Annual PM2.5 Plan and asked why CARB and South Coast AQMD Governing Boards did not need to approve the withdrawal. Mr. MacMillan responded that there is no Board process and instead the Executive Officers of each agency coordinate on the withdrawal process. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 46:15.

4. AQMP Advisory Group Membership

Mr. MacMillan discussed the charter of the AQMP Advisory Group and renewal of the membership.

Comments from the Advisory Group and Staff Responses:

Curtis Coleman asked about the definition of a quorum. Kathryn Roberts, Senior Deputy District Counsel, Legal, responded that a quorum requires more than half of AQMP Advisory Group members and was defined as part of the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 51:35.

Dan McGivney inquired if the quorum includes Advisory Group member alternates. Mr. MacMillan confirmed that the quorum does not include alternates. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 52:25.

Curtis Coleman commented that a potential solution to low attendance could be moving members who have missed more than two meetings to an inactive status, so that a quorum can be formed with active members. Mr. MacMillan responded that such changes must be approved by the Governing Board. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 52:37.

Comments from the Public and Staff Responses:

Jed Holtzman commented that South Coast AQMD staff should conduct active outreach and offer more remote locations to increase participation. Mr. Holtzman also noted that there is disproportionate attendance of business and industry affiliated members. Mr. MacMillan responded that Advisory Group members can participate remotely if they inform South Coast AQMD staff ahead of time and publicly notice the location. For additional details, refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 54:50.

5. Other Business

No additional comments, announcements, or reports from the Advisory Group members.

6. Public Comment

No additional comments, announcements, or reports from the Public.

7. Next Meeting

No meeting was scheduled.

Members Present In-Person (9)

Bill LaMarr, California Small Business Alliance
Curtis Coleman, Southern California Air Quality Alliance
Dan McGivney, SoCalGas
David Rothbart, Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works
Greg Osterman, Jet Propulsion Laboratory/NASA
Kim Fuentes, South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Rita Loof, RadTech International
Rongsheng Luo, Southern California Association of Governments
Thomas Jelenic, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Members Present Remotely – Listening Only (4)

Greg Nord, Orange County Transportation Authority
Michael Benjamin, California Air Resources Board
Patty Senecal, Western States Petroleum Association
Peter Okurowski, Association of American Railroads

Public Attendees and Interested Parties Present (33)

Ariel Fideldy, CARB
Austin Hicks, CARB
Bethmarie Quiambao, SCE
Chad
Cindy Parsons, LADWP
Don Nguyen, OC Sanitation
Eric Lu, Ramboll
Eric B.
Gillian Kass
Heather Estes
Howard Berman
IhShan
Jed Holtzman
Jen Vinh
Jennifer Hamilton, California Hydrogen Business Council
John Heintz
Karin Fickerson
Kimberly Caceres
Kierten Ho, CARB
Lijin Sun, SCAG
Lori Huddleston, Metro Long Range Planning
Marcos Holguin
Mark Abramowitz
Massa Keith
MS Weaver
Pete Marsh
Randa Abu Shaban
Scott King, CARB
Sylvia Vanderspek, CARB
Teresa Pisano
Teja Ganapa
Traci
Valerie D

South Coast AQMD Staff Present (33)

Barbara Baird
Barbara Radlein
Cristina Lopez
Cui Ge
David Lam
De Groeneveld
Emily Yen
Eric Praske

Draft Air Quality Management Plan Advisory Group Minutes for May 25, 2023

Farzaneh Khalaj
Heather Farr
Henry Pourzand
Ian MacMillan
Jen Vinh
Jong Hoon Lee
Kathryn Roberts
Kayla Jordan
Kevin Ni
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley
Marc Carreras Sospedra
Mark Henniger
Michael Krause
Michael Morris
Mojtaba Moghani
Paul Wright
Peter Campbell
Ricky Lai
Rosalee Mason
Rui Zhang
Sang-Mi Lee
Sarah Rees
Scott Epstein
Sina Taghvaei
Tiffani To