



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dennis Yates, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Chairman  
Greg Adams, L.A. County Sanitation District  
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates  
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California/All Metals  
Eric Busch, Representative, South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Jacob Haik, Office of School Board Member Richard Vladovic  
Maria Elena Kennedy, Kennedy Communications  
James R. Krausz, Esq., ALA Inland Counties  
Art Montez, AMA International  
Steve Mugg, South Orange County Representative, City of Mission Viejo

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ronald Loveridge, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Vice Chairman  
Felipe Aguirre, Vice Mayor, City of Maywood  
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy  
Daniel Cunningham, Metal Finishing Association  
Barbara Hanna, Council Member, City of Banning  
Angelo Logan, East Yard Communities for EJ  
Harold Martinez, Able Industrial Products, Inc.  
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal  
Todd Priest, Representative, Orange County Business Council

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Nicole Nishimura, Board Member Assistant (*Lyou*)  
Rita Loof, Radtech International

### **AQMD STAFF:**

Marc Carrel, Program Supervisor  
Jay Chen, Sr. Air Quality Engineering Manager  
Philip Crabbe, Acting Community Relations Manager  
Dr. Pom Pom Ganguli, Asst. Deputy Executive Officer  
Ranji George, Program Supervisor  
Lori Langrell, Secretary  
Roberta Lewis, Systems & Programming Supervisor  
Chung Liu, Deputy Executive Officer

Ora McEwan, Technology Implementation Manager  
John Olvera, Senior Deputy District Counsel  
Dipankar Sarkar, Planning and Rules Manager  
Gregory Ushijima, Air Quality Engineer II  
Kim White, Public Affairs Specialist

**Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

Chair Dennis Yates called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

**Agenda Item #2 – Approval of July 18, 2008 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items**

Chair Yates called for approval of the meeting minutes.

Mr. Greg Adams commented that the minutes do not reflect the significance of the previous discussion regarding the climate change issues. Mr. Adams stated that the Local Government Operations Protocol is going to the ARB Board for approval this month and that reviewing the listings in Jill Whynot's report would provide an enormous wealth of information as it will show the activities that are currently going on at the state level for regulating climate change.

Chair Yates commented that there is a new Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Law coming into effect, which requires construction of new residences or buildings to be built under LEED guidelines. Chair Yates added that currently it is voluntary for buildings to be built under LEED guidelines, but this would become mandatory by 2010. Chair Yates added that modular homes and mobile homes have been exempt from the LEED guidelines for new construction.

The July 18, 2008 meeting minutes were approved.

*Action item:* Ms. Nakamura to add Daniel Cunningham to the working group mailing list regarding the 2008 Clean Communities Plan.

- ✓ Staff has added Daniel Cunningham to the working group mailing list regarding the 2008 Clean Communities Plan.

*Action item:* Dr. Ganguli to follow-up with Art Montez regarding support from AQMD for school bus funding.

- ✓ Dr. Liu responded to Art Montez's request regarding support for school bus funding from AQMD. Dr. Liu commented that there is an annual program that assists school districts in replacing the old school buses with new natural gas school buses. He added that staff could provide Mr. Montez with an application and assist him in completing it to be considered for the next round of assistance.

Mr. Montez commented that there is a problem with the way the current program regarding school bus assistance is being administered. Mr. Montez stated there is not adequate time for them to compile all of the data and reporting needed to submit the application before the deadline. Chair Yates replied that Mr. Montez is representing school districts that probably require some special attention as they have not yet completed the application process. He assured Mr. Montez that there are several school districts which have completed the process and submitted their applications prior to the deadline. Chair Yates added that there is a learning curve that the school districts need to go through.

**Agenda Item #3 – Update on Climate Change Activities (Written Report)**

Ms. Whynot provided a written report update on climate change activities.

#### **Agenda Item #4 – Overview of Moyer Program Funding**

Dipankar Sarkar and Dr. Liu gave a presentation on Carl Moyer Program funding and other incentive programs.

Maria Elena Kennedy asked if there is a map showing the Environmental Justice (EJ) areas. Mr. Sarkar replied that a map of the EJ areas could be provided. Dr. Ganguli added that an EJ map can also be viewed on AQMD's website.

*Action item: Staff to provide a map of EJ areas.*

Mr. Montez asked if the map indicates the scale or set value of the area. Dr. Liu replied that the map was derived from three criteria: ozone, air quality, and diesel particulate risk and also the income levels and the percentage of residents that are below the poverty line. He added that collectively, the three criteria define whether or not you are in the EJ area and that 50% of funds are reserved solely for EJ areas.

Mr. Montez asked if there is an example of the proposal. Dr. Liu replied that every year an announcement is sent out that contains detailed information on the guidelines for the proposal. He added that a workshop is conducted and outreach is done throughout the year.

Maria asked if there is a tie-in with the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) EJ program. Dr. Liu replied that there is not much difference between the two EJ programs.

Steve Mugg asked if there is a 'needs test' used in this process. Mr. Sarkar replied that in the first RFP there was a limit of five trucks per company to provide funding to the smaller companies. He added that this is an ongoing program so it is not strictly based on cost effectiveness, but also on how many miles the person drives or has driven in the past or how 'dirty' the truck is.

Paul Avila asked what the retail cost is on a traditional trash truck. Mr. Sarkar replied that it is approximately \$200,000.

Mr. Adams asked about the current cost differential between a natural gas 'gallon equivalent' compared to diesel. Dr. Liu replied that the price is constantly changing, but currently, there are still significant benefits from natural gas.

Mr. Jacob Haik commented that in a program for the Port of Los Angeles, a truck is required to have a specific horsepower rating to qualify for replacement. He asked if that is the same with the program here. Chair Yates replied that AQMD does not require specific output on horsepower. Chair Yates added that AQMD goes by miles and weight.

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Update on Air Quality Web Enhancements**

Kim White gave a presentation on the website enhancements.

Rita Loof, Director of Environmental Affairs for Radtech International, commented that one of the features she liked about the upgraded website is the engineering and permitting policies and procedures which are very helpful for industry.

Ora McEwan gave a presentation on website enhancements for enhanced monitoring of wild fire events.

Mr. Montez asked if someone can check the air quality for a particular school district during a wild fire. Ms. McEwan replied that you just need to type in an address to get the air quality for that area.

Mr. Adams asked if there is an expected date that the wild fire improvements will go into production. Ms. McEwan replied that the application should be available in less than a month.

*Action item: Mr. Montez to provide to Dr. Ganguli information regarding the California School Board Meeting to take place in December.*

**Agenda Item #6 – Update on the Federal Surface Transportation**

This agenda item was postponed until the next meeting.

**Agenda Item #7 - Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities**

No comments.

**Agenda Item #8 - Other Business**

No comments.

**Agenda Item #9 - Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.