



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

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ETHNIC COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP
May 9, 2008

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

ECAG Chairman
Board Member Joseph Lyou, Ph.D.

ABSENT

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CAUCUS

Stan Lee
Tod Short

Patricia Byrd
Rosa Washington

LATINO CAUCUS

Fernando Del Rio
Ramon Diaz
Harold Martinez
Rose Montoya-Lona
Daniel Morales

Anastasio Medina

ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER CAUCUS

Tom Chang
Paul Choe
David Sakurai

OTHERS PRESENT

Earl Elrod, Board Assistant
Nicole Nishimura, Board Assistant

AQMD STAFF

Larry Bowen, Planning and Rules Manager
Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager
David De Boer, Program Supervisor
Heather Farr, Air Quality Specialist
Pom Pom Ganguli, Asst. DEO/Public Advisor
Carolyn Hamilton, Public Affairs Specialist
John Olvera, Sr. Deputy District Counsel
Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer
Laki Tisopulos, Asst. DEO, PRDAS

ECAG Minutes – May 9, 2008

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order/Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Joseph Lyou at 1:20 p.m. Chair Dr. Lyou commented that there was currently no update on the Moyer Program due to Moyer related and other deadlines, but assured members it would appear on next month's agenda. There was also mention of the issue of restructuring Advisory Committees which would be on the upcoming agenda as well. Member Rose Montoya-Lona commented that in her recent conversation with Chairman Burke, ECAG would not be dissolved because he had his beginnings as an ECAG member.

**Agenda Item #2 Approval of April 25, 2008 Minutes
Review of Follow-Up Items**

The minutes were approved as presented. There were no follow-up items.

Agenda Item #3 Caucus and Subcommittee Reports

Member Fernando Del Río pointed out that members were confused regarding meeting dates. Chair Dr. Lyou cleared up the matter by explaining the past changes were due to conflicts in his schedules. The meetings would continue on the regular schedule of the third Friday of the month at 12:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #4 Presentation on Rule 1610 – Old Vehicle Scrapping

David De Boer, Senior Staff Specialist, provided an update on proposed rule revisions to Rule 1610, Old - Vehicle Scrapping. He informed members that 1976 and newer vehicles are required to have a smog check. Should the vehicle fail to pass a required smog check, the Bureau of Automotive Repairs has funds available for low income households of up to \$500 for repairs, or anyone can scrap the vehicle for \$1,000. Some programs, such as the one in San Joaquin Valley, also provide additional funding of \$1,000 or more, to assist in the replacement of the scrapped vehicle with a used certified low-emission vehicle.

Mr. De Boer noted that at the state level, CARB has adopted the Voluntary Accelerated Light Duty Replacement Program (VAVR). Any air district wanting to implement a scrapping program has to adhere to the VAVR program requirements. Regulation 1610 generates emission reduction credits which can be used for compliance with Regulation 2202.

The purpose of Regulation 1610 is to reduce tailpipe emissions. The proposed rule amendments will harmonize Rule 1610 with CARB's VAVR regulation by reinstating the 24-month registration requirement, removing the multiple sales restriction and adding definitions and clarifying language.

Member Stan Lee inquired about the price of credits. Mr. De Boer stated the prices are based on what companies will pay. Member Daniel Morales inquired about the fact that vehicles reviewed for scrapping must be in good condition and be able to run for three years. Mr. De Boer noted that vehicles in the program would theoretically be on the road

on a daily basis for the next three years. Credits are generated and applied to other sources of emissions that can be used in another area to create an offset.

Dr. Lyou stated when this program was adopted there were many community concerns. Environmental justice concerns were raised because of the potential of allowing stationary sources to purchase mobile source credits and consolidating pollution in a single location. Dr. Lyou posed a question regarding this issue to Dr. Laki Tisopulos, Assistant DEO of Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources. Dr. Tisopulos commented that there are programs supported by industry that serve as an alternative means of compliance. The program was designed to provide alternative compliance with a variety of stationary source rules. The program has since been amended to improve the quality of vehicles being brought in. The applicability was then only applied to those participating in Rule 2202. No other stationary sources are currently using this program as an alternative compliance. This issue will be addressed this month because this rule goes to the Board in June. *(Note: The Public Hearing for PAR 1610 has been postponed to July 11, 2008)*

Member Tod Short inquired about the amount of credits which can be purchased. Dr. Tisopulos stated that while there is no limit, only those needed to comply should be purchased. Credits may be sold and if credits are not used they do expire.

Agenda Item #5 Overview of New 8-Hour Ozone Standards

Joe Cassmassi, Planning and Rules Manager, provided an overview on the newly adopted 8-hour ozone standards. Mr. Cassmassi stated that the ozone standard has been amended from 0.80 to 0.75 parts per billion (ppb) for an 8-hour average. This was revised after much research was conducted by the U.S. EPA's Clean Air Science Advisory Committee which looked at the health effects of ozone and came to the conclusion that a lower standard was required for an 8-hour exposure. The revision does not change the air quality, but does change several parameters of how air quality is measured and statistics will also change.

The four highest ozone impacted areas in the basin are in Santa Clarita, La Habra, Perris and Crestline. There is a significant difference in the previous standard and the new standard as it relates to attainment of the ozone standard. The 2007 AQMP targets 2024 for attainment, but the new standards will make year 2030 the preliminary attainment target date. Attaining the new standard may require halving the remaining oxides of nitrogen emissions by as much as 65-70 tons per day (TPD) beyond the 114 TPD target for 2024.

Member Montoya-Lona inquired whether or not schools had been alerted regarding this implementation. Mr. Cassmassi mentioned that schools have been notified but the health effects from outdoor activities during smoggy days need to be explained, in particular to the high school coaches.

Member Montoya-Lona requested information regarding the possibility of another Ultrafine Particles Conference. Dr. Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer, informed the group that there is a conference in the works for the beginning of next year.

Agenda Item #6 BP Settlement and Public Benefits Program

Dr. Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer, informed ECAG members of the Public Benefits Program which was begun as a result of funding from the BP Settlement. This program was allocated \$30 million to be expended at \$3 million per year over 10 years to fund health-related projects. The PBP committee is comprised of two BP executives, two AQMD Board Members, and an outside member of the public. So far, this committee has approved funding for five new Breathmobiles serving the 4-county area. Funds have also been used to conduct asthma education and prevention in schools and support medical clinics and in-home care to treat adults and children with asthma. Member Del Río inquired whether there would be any additional funding available after the 10-year funding cycle. Dr. Ospital noted at this time there is no provision for additional funding.

Agenda Item # 7 Review last Governing Board Meeting and Discussion on Upcoming Governing Board Agenda Items

Dr. Pom Pom Ganguli briefly highlighted Rule 1610 which was discussed in this meeting. There will also be a discussion on the Climate Change Initiative.

Agenda Item #8 Other Business

Member Daniel Morales informed members of vehicles which run on compressed air seen in Europe. Dr. Ganguli noted that while they may run on compressed air, there has to be some other means of power, such as electricity.

Agenda Item #9 Public Comment

There was none.

Agenda Item #10 Adjournment

There being no further comment, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.