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# SOUTH CENTRAL COAST BASINWIDE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COUNCIL

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## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Larry R. Allen**, APCO  
San Luis Obispo County APCD

**Michael Villegas**, APCO  
Ventura County APCD

**Dave Van Mullem**, APCO  
Santa Barbara County APCD

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Debbie Arnold**  
5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor  
San Luis Obispo County

**Mike Morgan**  
Council Member, City of Camarillo  
Ventura County

**Janet Wolf**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor  
Santa Barbara County

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## MEETING MINUTES December 17, 2014

### Present

Council Members: Jan Marx, San Luis Obispo County (for Debbie Arnold)  
Mike Morgan, Ventura County  
Janet Wolf, Santa Barbara County

Staff: Larry Allen, San Luis Obispo County  
Michael Villegas, Ventura County  
Dave Van Mullem, Santa Barbara County  
Jennie Thompson, San Luis Obispo County (Minutes)

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### 1. **Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2014**

Approved.

### 2. **Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

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**3. Small, Portable, and Personal AQ Sensors – Dave Van Mullem & Mike Villegas**

Personal air sensors provide local air data at a residential and neighborhood level. It provides information that can help identify localized hot spots, and covers areas between regional monitoring stations. Some challenges for the sensor's is that data is not quality controlled, some technology is better than others, and it can be affected by weather conditions. Although there are challenges, there are also opportunities with the sensors. They provide the public with low cost multiple sensors, can promote public support for the importance of clean air, and it can be educational for Air Districts, schools, and communities. California Air Districts are learning more about these sensors by testing and evaluating them and communicating their findings.

**4. Oil by Rail Project Proposal – Larry Allen**

Many refineries in California are interested in receiving oil by rail. A refinery on the Nipomo Mesa has proposed to build a rail spur off of an existing Union Pacific mainline. The refinery is requesting to bring in crude oil on unit trains rather than by pipeline 5-7 days a week. There are safety concerns from the public regarding possible explosions and derailment along the route. In addition, train emissions would be affecting neighborhoods that already have particulate matter issues related to dust from the dunes, which is a significant concern to local residents. One of the biggest issues with dealing with mitigation is trying to make sure they are using the lowest emitting locomotives. A health risk assessment was done showing the impacts of the oil by rail project using the State's current Health Risk Assessment (HRA) guidelines and proposed new guidelines with updated risk factors. The analyses showed significant health risks when calculated with the proposed new guidelines.

**5. Senate Bill 4, Well Stimulation MOU – Mike Villegas**

In 2013 the Governor signed Senate Bill 4, Well and Gas Stimulation. This bill deals with hydraulic fracturing, acidization, and other well stimulation procedures that are done in the oil field. There is a lot of public concern with these practices. One of the requirements is the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) had to enter into formal agreements with the Air Districts and California Air Resources Board to establish a working relationship so the activities could be better regulated. The main responsibility of the Air Districts is to assist DOGGR in identifying the type of information that would be included in the well stimulation permit that DOGGR issues. In addition, DOGGR and the Air Districts are going to engage in efforts to cross train the Air Districts inspectors. Each Air District will enter into an MOU with DOGGR.

**6. Proposed Federal Ozone Standard – All**

EPA is required to review the ambient air quality standard every five years to determine if a revision to the standard is needed. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) reviews all the literature and data of the air quality reports and recommends to the EPA what the level of standard should be. In the 2008 report, they recommended EPA lower the federal standard for an 8 hour average. This was much politicized and Congress threatened to cut off EPA funding if they adopted this stringent standard. EPA adopted a standard of 75/ppb even though CASAC had recommended a lower standard. EPA is reviewing the data again with additional new studies and as a result they are proposing that a federal standard be set in the range of 65-70 ppb (California State Standard is 70 ppb). EPA estimates that meeting the standards will save significant costs in health benefits. The primary standard is based on protecting public health, while the second standard is to protect public welfare. The court is mandated to come to a decision by October 1, 2015. EPA will designate areas in 2017 and there will be deadlines established for achieving compliance by certain years. EPA will designate districts as attainment or nonattainment by averaging the data for each monitoring station over the most recent three year period for which data is available.

**7. American Lung Association Annual AQ Report – All**

The Lung Association produces a report each year for each county and gives an "A-F" score on air quality. The American Lung Association has a very stringent rating system for grading air quality.

For example the entire county can be given an "F" grade if just one monitor representing a small portion of the county is non-attainment. To our public, this information suggests there's been no improvement in air quality. As a result, CAPCOA is now preparing its own annual air quality report to show the air quality trends and improvements made throughout the state.

**8. Other Business**

Mr. Mike Morgan asked Mr. Larry Allen on the status of the Oceano Dunes. Mr. Allen stated we are in the middle of implementing a Consent Decree with State Parks, which replaces the APCD permit requirement for the facility. Everything that would be in the permit is in the Consent Decree. State Parks just published their own air monitoring and emission studies which confirm the SLO APCD study results showing the riding areas to be significantly more emissive than the nonriding areas. APCD is working with State Parks and ARB in determining how best to decrease these emissions. State Parks did a test control project in the Spring of 2014 with 30 acres of hay bales placed in a non-riding area and 15 acres of sand fencing placed in the riding area in an effort to prevent further violations of the federal PM10 std. Analysis of the data could not discern any significant difference in air quality levels due to that project, so they are working on designing more substantial controls for 2015. The overall intent of the rule is to reduce emissions from the entire area to natural background levels.

**9. Confirm Next Meeting Date**

TBD

**10. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM.