

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP (EJAG)

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA

Thursday, May 23, 2013
5:30 p.m.

The Environmental Justice Advisory Group Meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, the Southern Region Office, VTC Room, 34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield and the Northern Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – A quorum was not yet present.

County	Member Name/Interest Group	Location
Merced	Melissa Kelly-Ortega, At-large Rep.	Central
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-large Rep.	Central
Fresno	*Sandra Celedón-Castro, At-large Rep.	Central
Madera	Michelle Garcia, At-large Rep.	Central
Stanislaus	Rayna Ruiz, At-large Rep.	North
Kern	Robert Smith, At-large Rep.	South

*Ms. Celedón-Castro arrived at 5:41 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Staff present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director; Jessi Fierro, Strategies and Incentives Manager and Legal Specialist; Heather Heinks, Supervising Air Quality Education Representative; Janelle Schneider, Air Quality Education Representative.

Staff present in Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Mike Oldershaw, Compliance Manager.

Staff present in Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Air Quality Education Representative.

Members of the public present – Byanka Santoyo, Arvin Bucket Brigade; Dennis Fox, Kern County Resident.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Ms. Kelly-Ortega said she was looking forward to Mr. McVaigh’s updates.
6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Mr. McVaigh said the Governing Board adopted the District’s annual budget in May, including the incentive spending plan. He said Mr. DeYoung will provide details of the spending plan next month.

Mr. McVaigh said there was a presentation on form-based coding at the Governing Board study session. He said the District is interested in form-based coding because it has the potential to promote multiple-use planning, which would reduce traffic and vehicle miles travelled. The Governing Board authorized up to \$10,000 in next year’s budget to host an educational forum on air-friendly land uses, including form-based coding. Staff is working on ideas for this forum.

Mr. Smith said street design and transportation systems tie into form-based coding. He suggested the Model Street Design Manual for Livable Streets as a topic to include in the educational forum. This manual serves as a template to assist in achieving balanced street design that accommodates cars while ensuring that pedestrians, cyclists and transit users can travel safely and comfortably.

Mr. McVaigh said the Governing Board has expressed interest in enhancing the Burn Cleaner incentive program and the District would like input from EJAG. Mr. Williams drafted an initial proposal for the Grants Committee. Once approved by EJAG, the final recommendation will go to the CAC and the Governing Board.

*Ms. Celedón-Castro arrived at 5:41 p.m. a quorum was present.

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR APRIL 25, 2013
(This item was postponed until a quorum was present.)

Moved:	Garcia
Seconded:	Smith
Ayes:	Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Ruiz, Williams
Nays:	None

Motion passed to approve the minutes for April 25, 2013.

7. RULE AND 2012 PM2.5 PLAN UPDATES – Jessi Fierro, Strategies and Incentives Manager and Legal Specialist, presented the updates.

Ms. Ruiz asked about the feedback received for Rule 9610. Ms. Fierro said there was a comment period associated with the workshop and there is an open comment period based on the proposed rule. She said the District received comments from the EPA and many comments regarding clarification on the

enforceability components of the rule. Ms. Fierro said all comments and responses are summarized in the staff report available on the District's website.

11. ELECT CHAIR – (This item was taken out of order.)
Ms. Kelly-Ortega nominated Derek Williams.

Moved: Kelly-Ortega
Seconded: Celedón-Castro
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Ruiz, Williams
Nays: None

Motion passed to elect Derek Williams as chair for a two-year term.

12. SCHEDULE JOINT MEETING – (This item was taken out of order.)
Ms. Kelly-Ortega looked at the responses to the online survey and concluded the best date for the EJAG/CAC joint meeting was June 19. The meeting will be held in Fresno from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Moved: Celedón-Castro
Seconded: Garcia
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Ruiz, Williams
Nays: None

Motion passed to schedule the joint meeting for June 19, 2013.

(Note: It was subsequently determined that the June 19 date will not work due to lack of availability of CAC members.)

8. EJ DISTRICT MAP OVERLAY- Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director, presented an overlay of the District's EJ map as compared to the top 20 percent of vulnerable communities according to CalEPA's EnviroScreen. The maps largely overlap, but some of EnviroScreen's vulnerable communities are not included in the District's EJ map, and the District's map includes a few areas not included in EnviroScreen.

Mr. Sheikh asked for input on how to use EnviroScreen to assist with the District's ongoing EJ efforts. He said this tool may help in identifying some EJ communities not captured in the District's map. He asked EJAG if they wanted to review the maps to look at areas for potential inclusion, and if they wanted to reform the maps subcommittee. Mr. Sheikh added the District would also like input on how best to use this tool in making a strong case for bringing more state funding to the Valley.

Mr. Williams asked if EnviroScreen's top 20 percent includes bigger cities, such as Visalia, because some areas of bigger cities should be excluded. Mr. McVaigh said the District EJ map includes the north part of Visalia and a small part of Tulare, but EnviroScreen includes those entire cities. He said the District

map was done by census tract of about 10,000 people and EnviroScreen used zip codes. Neither method eliminated those areas entirely. Mr. Sheikh said OEHHA continues to enhance their tool and plans to do a census tract level. He said although this won't fully resolve the issue, it will provide more resolution. Mr. Smith mentioned the great deal of variation found in cities throughout the Valley.

Ms. Celedón-Castro asked how the District EJ map compares to the top 10 percent of EnviroScreen. Mr. Sheikh said the top 10 percent of EnviroScreen still represents about 60 percent of the Valley. Ms. Celedón-Castro said the entire Valley is affected by air pollution, but the intent of the EJ map is to focus on communities that are affected the most. She suggested focusing on the top 10 percent or 5 percent and creating EJ priority areas or "red zones." Mr. Williams suggested creating a tiered program.

Public Comment: Byanka Santoyo, Arvin Bucket Brigade coordinator, said she came to the meeting in hopes of gaining support for her organization's efforts. Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked Ms. Santoyo to stay for the general public comment period and provide more information.

Mr. Fox asked about the small EJ communities not identified by EnviroScreen. Mr. McVaigh said some EJ communities may be only a small part of a census tract or zip code and therefore were not captured by EnviroScreen. Mr. Fox suggested getting information on small communities from other agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture.

9. GRANTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION UPDATES– Mr. Williams said he drafted an initial proposal regarding the Burn Clean incentive program. The Grants Committee will finalize the recommendation in June and present it to EJAG for approval. It will then be presented to CAC and the Governing Board in August.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega said she can no longer be on the Grants Committee. Ms. Garcia will take her place.

10. DISTRICT OPTIONS FOR ADDRESSING VALLEY FEVER UPDATE –
(This item was tabled until June.)

13. JUNE EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS – The following items will be on the June agenda:

- Grants Committee – Discussion/Action
- Valley Fever Update – David Lighthall
- Arvin Bucket Brigade - Byanka Santoyo
- Review of Collaborative Session
- Alternate Seats

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Second Opportunity) – Ms. Santoyo said the Arvin Bucket Brigade wants EJAG to know about their concerns and to show support for their efforts.

Ms. Garcia asked for background information about the organization and its objectives. Ms. Santoyo said she is contracted with Global Community Monitoring (GCM), an environmental justice and human rights non-profit that empowers industrial communities to re-create a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. GCM has developed the use of “bucket brigades” as a method for communities to collect valid scientific data and document impacts of pollution.

Ms. Santoyo said the bucket brigade tests for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at facilities in Arvin. They are working on identifying major contributors. Ms. Santoyo said the Arvin Bucket Brigade is hoping to gain support from other agencies and organizations.

Mr. Fox asked about the Pep Boys lawn mower program he mentioned at the April meeting. Ms. Heinks told Mr. Fox the District is not affiliated with the Pep Boys program, but the District’s new lawn mower program starts on June 4.

Mr. Fox expressed concerns about Valley Fever. Ms. Kelly-Ortega told Mr. Fox the presentation on Valley Fever will be next month, and she will forward his comments to Dr. Lighthall.

15. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – Mr. Williams thanked Ms. Kelly-Ortega for a fantastic job as chair for the past two years.
16. EJAG MEMBER SUGGESTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE EJAG REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2013, AT 10 a.m. – None.
17. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2013, AT 10 a.m. – Mr. Williams volunteered.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. (The Grants Subcommittee will meet at 4:15 p.m.) The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC), with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating.