

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, October 26, 2017**  
**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 teleconference in the Northern  
Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto*

1. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Derek Williams, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was **not** present

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name/Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Stanislaus	Thomas Helme, At-Large Rep	North
Kern	Marvin Dean, Ethnic-Small Business Owner	South
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-Large Rep	Central
Fresno	Kevin Hamilton, CAC-Environmental (Primary) *	Central

\*Kevin Hamilton arrived at 6:17pm

Staff Present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Sheraz Gill, Director of Strategy and Incentives; Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor; Dave Warner, Deputy APCO; Heather Heinks, Public Education Administrator; Cassandra Melching, Air Quality Education Rep II; Mehri Barati, Director of Administrative Services; Aleksandr Krivobok, Network Systems Analyst II; Arnaud Marjollet, Director of Permit Services.

Staff Present in the Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Air Quality Education Rep II

Staff Present in the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Mike Oldershaw, Air Quality Compliance Manager

Members of the public present – None

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 24, 2017 – This item was tabled as there was no quorum present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – David Rodriguez commented that he recently became aware of the Environmental Justice Advisory Group Meetings. He plans to attend future meetings when possible. Mr. Rodriguez plans to inform other members of his community of the District's services. The Chair and Mr. Dean welcomed Mr. Rodriguez and thanked him for attending.
5. CHAIR COMMENTS – The Chair, Derek Williams expressed that he is excited to see what EJAG will accomplish in the upcoming year during his term as Chair.
6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Dave Warner, Deputy APCO, gave the following updates to members:
  - At the September 20, 2017, Study Session, the Board discussed targeted strategies focused on regional hot-spots to expedite attainment of Federal PM2.5 Standards. This includes additional controls on under-fired charbroilers and fireplaces in ways that will focus resources, both incentives and regulations, on those areas needed for the District to reach attainment. It is not the Board's wish to leave other communities with more localized air quality issues out of the picture, and therefore a community level targeted strategy was discussed to address local issues of community concern.
  - Also at the Study Session, the Executive Director/APCO, Seyed Sadredin, reported to the Board his evaluation of the EJAG reporting structure. The Board took action to make the pilot reporting structure the permanent structure. The EJAG will continue to report directly to the Governing Board while updating CAC on activities.
  - The Board also heard at the Study Session about the progress the District is making in significantly expanding the District's Vehicle Replacement Programs. The District has been running a pilot program to help low-income residents replace their old polluting cars with newer less polluting automobiles. Based on the success of the pilot program, the District recently dedicated a fivefold increase to expand the program. In order to reach more people, a web-based application system will be set-up. This system will allow individuals to apply online or at the District office.
  - During the October 19, 2017 Governing Board meeting, District Staff recommended the Board receive and file the 2017 Annual Report on the District's Indirect Source Review Program. This rule requires mitigation of emissions of new developments. The report is available for viewing on the District's website.
  - The Board also heard about three grant-related items during the October Board meeting. The first item was to electrify dairy feed mixing operations based on a District pilot program that reduced 20-30 tons of NOx. The second item was to improve the electric car charger grant program to include workplaces in the program; this will allow the employers to apply for grant funding to install chargers at workplaces. The third item was to

use grant funds to help other agencies implement clean motility programs such as car sharing in disadvantaged communities, electric vanpooling and other projects throughout the Valley.

- Also at the October 19, 2017 Board Meeting, there was a discussion on District efforts to help community members understand the availability and usefulness of low-cost personal air sensors in each neighborhood.
- The Central Valley Summit on Alternatives to Open Burning of Agricultural Waste will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7-8, 2017 at the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Parlier, CA. This information is also on the District's website.

Mr. Dean asked District staff to provide an update on the following Study Session items, #14, Community–Level Targeted Strategy; #15, Participation in the District's incentive programs in Kern County; # 17, and a progress report on the District's expanded passenger vehicle replacement program. Mr. Dean also asked for information on incentive grant program expenditures. Mr. Warner responded that the information for each of the items requested could be found on the District's website and Mr. Warner offered to send the links to each of the items in question. Mr. Warner continued and referred to item # 15, Participation in the District's incentive programs in Kern County. He noted that Kern County is one of the "Hot Spot" areas of the Valley for both ozone and PM2.5. Although significant investments have been made by the District for emission-reduction projects in Kern County we need to ensure that moving forward there are no missed opportunities to take full advantage of District voluntary incentive programs in Kern County. Board discussed potential barriers and developed an action plan, working with all interested stakeholders, to ensure optimum incentive program participation in Kern County.

Public Comments: None

7. UPDATES ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES – Item moved to the December 7, 2017 EJAG Meeting.
8. UPDATE ON PM2.5 PLANNING PROCESS – Item moved to the December 7, 2017 EJAG Meeting.
9. PILOT PERIOD TO CHANGE THE REPORTING STRUCTURE OF THE EJAG TO REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNING BOARD SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETELY– Dave Warner, Deputy APCO said the evaluation of EJAG's pilot reporting structure has been adopted by the Board. The Executive Director and Air Pollution Control Officer, Seyed Sadredin considered it to be a success. During the September 20, 2017 Study Session, Mr. Sadredin also mentioned that continued success requires that EJAG members explore means to better educate other environmental organizations with respect to the importance of controlling mobile source emissions throughout the San Joaquin Valley. With 85% of Valley pollution coming from mobile sources, environmental justice

organizations must embrace the fact that additional significant reductions in mobile source emissions can play a much larger role in improving public health in the Valley's disadvantaged communities. Unfortunately, the District has seen many instances where our partner environmental justice organizations tend to provide a free pass to ARB and EPA by not asking for significant emissions reductions from the sources under their regulatory authority. These organizations often focus all of their energy into pushing for local stationary source control measures, without fully acknowledging the important need for mobile source emission reduction. While the District wants and appreciates engagement at the local level, and will continue to leave no stone unturned in finding additional reductions in local emissions, we must do everything we can to take advantage of the huge opportunities at the state and federal level to meaningfully reduce emissions from mobile sources.

10. UPDATE ON AB 617 – Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor provided a detailed summary on AB 617.

Mr. Jordan also provided information on an upcoming meeting that will be held in Fresno, California on development of the Community Air Protection Program. This meeting will be held, November 9, 2017 at the UC Merced Building, which is located at 550 E. Shaw Avenue, Fresno CA from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Jordan for his report.

Mr. Dean asked if any of the EJAG members or if District staff participated or attended an ARB workshop on Cap and Trade funding that was held in Fresno. Mr. Jordan said that the meeting was about the guidelines from ARB to other State agencies and how they were to quantify the emission reductions from Cap and Trade expenditures and the requirements to spend money in disadvantaged communities. He added that the District has been very engaged with ARB.

Mr. Jordan reported that \$250 million was allocated for AB 617 and the District is receiving 32% of that amount. He also said the Valley did very well on other parts of Cap and Trade funding during this legislative session. There is \$135 million that is dedicated to agriculture and the assumption is that the majority of that money is going to come to the Valley. This is to replace agricultural equipment and fund other efforts to reduce emissions from the Ag sector such as harvesters. There is also \$100 million dollars that was designated for the development of dairy digesters to reduce methane emission in the Valley and significant funding for the vehicle replacement program that the District runs through the Tune In Tune Up program. The Valley is likely to receive between \$400-500 million dollars in Cap and Trade funding out of the budget deal that occurred. Mr. Dean complimented the District and encouraged them to keep up the great work.

Mr. Rodriguez, public attendee, asked about digester dairies and wanted to know what portion could be allocated for the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Jordan

responded that the state had money before this past legislative session for dairy digesters. The State recently announced who was funded, and about \$35 million dollars is coming to the Valley to fund dairy digesters. The \$100 million is in addition to that and is targeted at Valley dairies for digester projects. Mr. Rodriguez asked if it possible to receive a list of the dairies that will benefit. Mr. Jordan responded that out of the \$100 million there will likely be a request for proposals from the state and the dairies who wish to apply can do so. Mr. Jordan said a list can be provided to Mr. Rodriguez of the ones who were funded in the last round. Mr. Rodriguez thanked Mr. Jordan.

Mrs. Martinez, public attendee with the Central California Environmental Justice Network, thanked Mr. Jordan for his thorough report on AB 617. She added that her organization and other advocates in the Valley have been following this topic closely because, as mentioned, it is important to start at a community level. Mrs. Martinez added that she agrees with the point that communities will be playing an important role. She encourages the definition of communities to be expanded to not only include industry as the main stakeholders but also to include the residents who are living in those communities and are highly impacted by this effect. She said that they are ready to be at the table once the implementation plan is released, she is sure many communities in the Valley will be selected. Mr. Williams thanked Mrs. Martinez for her comment.

11. UPCOMING EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Updates on attainment plans and rules; Update on PM 2.5 planning process

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Second Opportunity) – None

13. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – None

14. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017 (TENTATIVE) AT 10 A.M. – This item was tabled as there was no quorum present.

15. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 16, 2017 (TENTATIVE) AT 9 A.M. – This item was tabled as there was no quorum present.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting –The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 5:30 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.