



Air Pollution Control District
San Luis Obispo County

October 18, 2023

Sarah Miggins
Deputy Director, OHMVR Division
California Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001

SUBJECT: Conditional Approval of California Department of Parks and Recreation's
2023 Annual Report and Work Plan in Response to Stipulated Order of
Abatement Number 17-01

Dear Sarah Miggins,

In accordance with Stipulated Order of Abatement Number 17-01 (SOA), a public workshop was held on October 13, 2023, to receive public comment on the provisionally approved 2023 Annual Report and Work Plan (ARWP) dated October 4, 2023. After considering public input, the District now grants final approval of the plan, subject to the following conditions:

Plover Enclosure

1. If the Plover Enclosure area, in whole or in part, is reopened to public vehicular access, State Parks shall simultaneously implement District-approved dust controls sufficient to offset the resulting increase in emissions. If feasible, a final set of PI-SWRL measurements should be made in the area before it is reopened.

Air Quality Modeling

2. Consistent with the attached memo from the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) Chair Bernard Bauer dated September 14, 2023, Section 3.3 of the ARWP is optional.
3. To ensure that the remaining modeling issues are resolved expeditiously:
 - a. State Parks shall work with the SAG to finalize the SAG-recommended emissivity grid to be used for determining compliance with the SOA emissions reduction goal. This recommendation shall be presented to the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) by February 1, 2024, and shall include a statement of concurrence from the SAG and an analysis of why "Scenario 1" and "Scenario 2" from the ARWP yield divergent results.

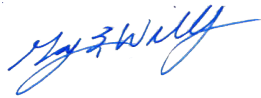
- b. By February 14, 2024, the District will approve a final set of emissions assumptions to be used in compliance determination.
- c. By March 15, 2024, State Parks shall present to the SAG and District, emissions estimates for both the ODSVRA as currently configured and the 1939 pre-disturbance scenario. These estimates shall incorporate the modeling assumptions approved by the APCO.

Coordination with Coastal Commission

- 4. Certain dust control elements of the ARWP may require authorization by the California Coastal Commission. For any element which the Commission declines to authorize, State Parks shall substitute dust controls sufficient to yield an equivalent reduction in emissions. Any such alternative treatment shall be selected in consultation with the SAG and the District and be installed according to the same timeline proposed for the original treatment.
- 5. If a Coastal Development Permit amendment application is submitted to the California Coastal Commission, it shall note that the District has found that any dust control measures to be authorized under the permit amendment will aid in compliance with District Rule 1001, as well as with the SOA. This requirement may be waived with the approval of the APCO.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,



Gary E. Willey
Air Pollution Control Officer

Attachment

cc: Jon O'Brien
CA DPR
Hearing Board
District Board
District Counsel
Hearing Board Counsel
Coastal Commission Staff
The Scientific Advisory Group

September 14, 2023

Memo: Summary of Discussion on September 14 - Re excess emissions

From: Bernard Bauer, Chair, Scientific Advisory Group

To: Sarah Miggins, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Gary Willey, San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District

Cc: Karl Tupper, San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District
Jon O'Brien, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Ronnie Glick, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Carla Scheidlinger, Scientific Advisory Group

Prompted by the August 21, 2023 review and recommendations from San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (APCD) pertaining to the Draft 2023 Annual Report and Work Plan (ARWP) that was submitted by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) on August 1, 2023, a meeting was called by the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAG) for September 14, 2023 to discuss a strategy for moving forward toward satisfying the requirements of the Stipulated Order of Abatement (SOA). In particular, Section 3b of the SOA states that

"The plan shall be designed to eliminate emissions in excess of naturally occurring emissions from the ODSVRA that contribute to downwind violations of the state and federal PM10 air quality standards. By October 16, 2024, in consultation with the SAG and CARB, the Respondent shall obtain Hearing Board approval of a final excess emissions goal."

The APCD review (August 21, 2023 memo to Ms. Miggins) states that

"The District views achieving the new emissions reduction target as the most important of the SOA goals" and that for purposes of "obtaining Hearing Board approval of the final excess emissions goal, the District does not believe that the SOA requires State Parks to develop a new 'excess emissions framework' [as proposed by the SAG] such as the TPM10:TWPD analysis proposed in the ARWP."

The main outcome of our discussion today was general agreement that the excess emissions framework proposed by the SAG (with a focus on PM10 concentrations at specific monitoring stations) should not be prioritized as the main mechanism for demonstrating compliance with the requirements of the SOA. Rather, the consensus was to:

1. Focus efforts on quantifying mass emissions from the ODSVRA using PI-SWERL measurements and emissions modeling for both the pre-disturbance scenario and the

'current' landscape (configured for some future date of attainment rather than as of September, 2023, should more mitigation projects become necessary).

2. Compile evidence that demonstrates convincingly that the range of dust mitigation strategies implemented by CDPR have made (and continue to make) a difference in reducing PM10 concentrations at downwind locations leading to overall air quality improvements. These might include trends in (i) TPM10:TWPD ratio, (ii) differences-in-differences analysis; (iii) number of exceedance days; and (iv) other metrics yet to be determined.
3. Continue with adaptive management with a view to controlling dust emissions from the ODSVRA and improving air quality downwind, which may include:
 - a. Continued field monitoring of relevant parameters;
 - b. Updating the PI-SWERL grid with a focus on strategic areas and times;
 - c. Using advanced analytical approaches to understand dust emission and dispersion, including, but not limited to, model refinements;
 - d. Renewed commitment to implement dust mitigation projects when recommended by the scientific evidence.

It is understood that our discussion was held after the submission of the Second Draft 2023 ARWP on September 11, 2023, and in this context, some of these consensus items summarized above may not be adequately reflected in the current version of the 2023 ARWP, without prejudice.