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# SOUTH CENTRAL COAST BASINWIDE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COUNCIL

Santa Barbara APCD 260 N. San Antonio Rd. Suite A Santa Barbara CA 93110 805-961-8800

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## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Michael Villegas**, APCO  
Ventura County APCD

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

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

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

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

**Debbie Arnold, Vice-Chair**  
5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor  
San Luis Obispo County

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## MEETING MINUTES October 16, 2013

### Present

Council Members: Mike Morgan, Ventura County  
Janet Wolf, Santa Barbara County  
Debbie Arnold, San Luis Obispo County

Staff: Mike Villegas, Ventura County  
Dave Van Mullem, Santa Barbara County  
Gary Willey, San Luis Obispo County (for Larry Allen)

### 1. Approval of Minutes of August 9, 2013

Received and filed.

### 2. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

### 3. Campfire Rings (Mike Villegas)

Faria Beach campground in Northern Ventura County contains approximately 35 side by side campsites, each with a campfire ring. The edge of the campground is immediately adjacent to multi-million dollar homes. Home owners have asked VCAPCD to adopt a fire ring rule similar to the South Coast AQMD rule for bonfires which states, among other things, that fire pits are to be located at least 700 feet from the nearest residence. Considering the proximity to the homes, a

700' clearance at the Faria Beach campground would eliminate the majority of the fire rings. VCAPCD is currently evaluating options for Ventura County.

#### **4. Ag Engine retrofit deadlines and APCD outreach (Gary Willey)**

Tier 1 Ag Engines are roughly 12-15 year old diesel engines. Per State regulations Tier 1 engines need to be retrofitted or replaced to not exceed Tier 4 standards beginning December 31, 2014. As the deadline looms, some District permitted facilities with Tier 1 engines have yet to be retrofitted or replaced. The biggest issue in most of these cases is cost, and especially to small businesses. Many of these remaining engines are low use; for example they may be used only for frost control and run less than 100 hours. Unfortunately the State did not write any regulations exempting low use.

Districts have conducted extensive outreach to their permitted facilities to remind them of the upcoming deadline and to offer solutions including possible electrification of engines (which would eliminate the need for permitting) as well as available grant funding. They will also be using their enforcement discretion in the compliance agreements which could allow some sources to continue to operate at low frequency with their current engine.

#### **5. OEHHA Risk Assessment Guidance (Dave Van Mullem)**

In October 2001 there was legislation about the prioritization of toxic air contaminants under the Children's Environmental Health Protection Act. This Act set the stage for a toxic risk assessment to be conducted in order to put children's health in the forefront. Children are more sensitive to pollutants than adults; they have higher ventilation rates and narrower pathways; they also spend more time outdoors; all of which increase their exposure (or risk) to pollutants.

The current process in which toxic risks are assessed was established by AB-2588 in 1988. It uses a model that puts a hypothetical person on a fence post at the boundary of, and then in 100 foot increments from, a stationary source facility that emits toxic pollutants. At each increment, the model would show that individuals' potential toxic risk over a 70 year period. It was determined recently that this model should be revised, and The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has created the draft OEHHA Risk Assessment Guidelines. The draft guidelines are in the early stages of public review and are anticipated to become effective in late 2014.

Some of the key factors in the new Guidelines are:

- Uncertainty factors for reference levels revised to protect infants and children
- Cancer risk takes into account sensitivity at early ages
- Accounts for higher exposures to younger age groups
- Model now includes option for spatial averaging, particularly for small facilities

The important thing to note about the proposed guidelines is that the risk to children's health is no greater today than it was previously, it is just being better assessed.

#### **6. Innovative Methyl Bromide Controls at Guadalupe Cooling (Gary Willey)**

Broccoli grown by Guadalupe Cooling in SLO County is a major export to Taiwan. Due to tight pest controls; the broccoli was being harvested, driven to the Port of Long Beach for fumigation, driven back to Guadalupe Cooling to be super-cooled and packaged, and then driven back to Long Beach to be loaded onto cargo ships en route to Taiwan. In the meantime, there is considerable cost of fuel as well as lost shelf life due to transit, not to mention the emissions created in the 2

trips. Because of this, Guadalupe Cooling looked at alternative options, one being use of a methyl bromide (MeBr) chamber with controls to conduct the fumigation. MeBr is an ozone depletor, but is allowed in some situations for fumigating.

In 2009 Guadalupe Cooling approached the District about creating a fumigation chamber locally and has sense gone forward with the project. The chamber allows the MeBr to be captured, carbon scrubbed onsite, and converted to nonhazardous waste. This process eliminates half of the road trip emissions, eliminates the emissions that had been created during open fumigation in Long Beach and extends the shelf life of the product; all a win-win for Guadalupe Cooling and for cleaner air.

The MeBr chamber with controls is the first of its kind and sets a MACT floor for federal usage. It allows for the control and capture of a useful chemical and neutralizes it. People from all over the country have shown an interest in its use for not only broccoli, but other vegetables as well.

## **7. Scoping Plan Update (All)**

The Global Climate Change Act, AB 32, was enacted in 2006 and from that Act came the first Scoping Plan in 2008. AB 32 requires that every 5 years the Scoping Plan be reviewed and updated. The draft update released this month, called *The Climate Change Scoping Plan-First Update*, is a discussion draft for public review and comment. The first workshop was held on October 15 at ARB offices and the final proposed update is expected to be released mid-November and then back to the Board for final consideration mid-December.

The draft document includes input from CAPCOA in the *Local Efforts* and *Looking Ahead* sections of the document. There is greater emphasis on short-lived pollutants such as black carbon, methane and other ozone depleting compounds. 2020 and 2050 goals have been adjusted based on new data and 2030 milestone goals have been added. Cap and Trade, Climate change, sustainable freight and vessel speed reduction are also major considerations.

## **8. Other Business**

Mike Morgan opened a short discussion about gasification plants. These plants chop up trash along with green waste and then that mixture is put into high heat in order to be gasified, leaving 15-18% carbon residual, biodiesel, water and carbon dioxide. It generally takes 2 or more years to get a gasification plant approved but it is a worthwhile project. AB804, vetoed yesterday, would have made this process faster.

## **9. Confirm Next Meeting Date**

To be determined after the start of the new year since membership may change.

## **10. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.