

**State of California
Air Resources Board
Board Item Summary**

**Item # 21-11-4: Informational Report from the Leadership of the
Environmental Justice Advisory Committee on
Efforts Related to the 2022 Scoping Plan**

Staff Recommendation:

This is an informational item only. No action is required.

Discussion:

In 2006, the Legislature passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Núñez, Stats. of 2006), which created a comprehensive, multi-year program to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California. AB 32 required the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) to develop a Scoping Plan that describes the approach California will take to reduce GHGs to achieve the goal of reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The Scoping Plan was first approved by the Board in 2008 and must be updated at least every five years. Since 2008, there have been two updates to the Scoping Plan. Each of the Scoping Plans have included a suite of policies to help the State achieve its GHG targets, in large part leveraging existing programs whose primary goal is to reduce harmful air pollution. Achieving carbon neutrality will bring a number of changes to California, including moving the State away from fossil fuel combustion in a manner that supports job retention and creation as California makes a just transition towards a clean energy economy. Moreover, data shows disadvantaged communities are disproportionately impacted by fossil fuel combustion related air pollution. A phasing out of reliance on fossil fuels will deliver greater benefits in these communities compared to non-environmental justice communities in the State.

To further assist CARB in its efforts to advance environmental justice and equity, AB 32 mandates through Health and Safety Code section 38591, that CARB convene an Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC), of at least three members, to advise the Board in developing the Scoping Plan. The advisory committee shall be comprised of representatives from communities in the state with the most significant exposure to air pollution, including, but not limited to, communities with minority populations or low-income populations, or both. The Board shall appoint the advisory committee members from nominations received from environmental justice organizations and community groups. Pursuant to AB 32, CARB convened the first EJAC Meeting in January 2007 to advise the Board on the development of the initial Scoping Plan. The Board reconvened the EJAC in 2013 and in 2015 to advise the Board on the development the 2014 and 2017 Scoping Plan Updates, respectively.

On May 20, 2021, the Board reconvened the EJAC to consult and advise on the development of the 2022 Scoping Plan Update to ensure that environmental justice principles and actions are incorporated into the Scoping Plan that staff plans to bring to the Board before December 2022. The 2022 Scoping Plan Update will assess progress towards achieving the Senate Bill 32 2030 target and lay out a path to achieve carbon neutrality no later than 2045.

The Board will hear an informational update on the perspective of the EJAC leadership regarding the status of CARB staff's development of the 2022 Scoping Plan.

Summary and Impacts:

Not applicable.