

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY 2007 OZONE PLAN

The Air Resources Board (the Board or ARB) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the approval of the San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan and to consider updates to the transportation conformity budgets, the reasonable further progress demonstration, and the emissions inventories contained in the 2007 Ozone Plan.

DATE: June 14, 2007

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, California 93726

or Via Videoconference (2 Locations)

District Northern Region Office
4230 Kiernan Avenue, Suite 130
Modesto, California 95356

District Southern Office
2700 M Street, Suite 275
Bakersfield, California 93301

This item will be considered at a one-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, June 14, 2007. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before June 14, 2007, to determine the schedule on which this item will be considered.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, large print, audiocassette or computer disk. Please contact ARB's Disability Coordinator at 916-323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711, to place your request for disability services. If you are a person with limited English and would like to request interpreter services, please contact ARB's Bilingual Manager at 916-323-7053.

Background

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act) establishes planning requirements for those areas that routinely exceed the health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These nonattainment areas must develop and implement a State

Implementation Plan (SIP) that demonstrates how they will attain the standards by specified dates. Federal law holds each state responsible for implementing the provisions of the Act.

In July 1997, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) promulgated a new 8-hour NAAQS for ozone. U.S. EPA classified the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin as a “serious” nonattainment area with an attainment date of June 2013. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) developed an attainment plan with input from interested parties. In the 2007 Ozone Plan, the District’s analysis showed that the local, State, and federal controls already in place will be insufficient to allow the San Joaquin Valley to attain the ozone standard by the 2013 deadline.

Consequently, the District adopted the 2007 Ozone Plan targeting a June 15, 2024 “extreme” attainment date. The 2007 Ozone Plan includes new local emission control measures, as well as the emission reductions benefits of the proposed 2007 State Strategy which the Board will consider at its meeting scheduled for June 21-22, 2007. The 2007 Ozone Plan also relies on the use of new technology, as allowed under section 182(e)(5) the federal Clean Air Act, to provide the final increment of nitrogen oxide emission reductions. The District adopted the 2007 Ozone Plan on April 30, 2007. At that time, the District also requested a reclassification to “extreme” nonattainment of the federal ozone standard.

The 2007 Ozone Plan establishes county-level on-road motor vehicle emission transportation conformity budgets for each milestone year, as well as for the attainment year. The emissions budgets in the 2007 Ozone Plan reflect the latest planning assumptions and were developed using EMFAC2007. ARB staff has updated the transportation conformity budgets to reflect revised Madera County vehicle activity data for all budget years, which were not available in time for publication in the 2007 Ozone Plan. In addition, the San Joaquin County 2008 transportation conformity budgets were updated to correct a data input error. Documentation on the proposed update is available on-line at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/sip/2007sip/2007sip.htm>.

In addition, ARB staff is proposing to update the emissions inventory to reflect a change in the calculation of pesticide emissions provided by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) which was not available in time for the District’s plan publication and adoption. DPR staff has published a memorandum outlining revisions to the emission estimation calculations for ROG emissions from agricultural pesticide usage. These revised inventories reflect changes to the emission estimating methodology to include updated emission factors and the inclusion of an application use factor.

The Clean Air Act requires that areas such as the San Joaquin Valley demonstrate “reasonable further progress” (RFP) toward attainment of the federal ozone standard and provide for contingency measures in the event that the required level of progress is not achieved. The 2007 Ozone plan demonstrates that these requirements will be met as a result of rules and regulations already in place. ARB staff concurs. However, the

RFP demonstration included in the 2007 Ozone Plan does not include the impacts of the revised pesticide emissions, discussed previously. ARB staff has updated the RFP demonstration to include the revised pesticide emissions. ARB staff is proposing to submit this updated RFP demonstration to U.S. EPA for inclusion in California's SIP for the San Joaquin Valley.

Proposed Action

ARB staff has reviewed the 2007 Ozone Plan for the San Joaquin Valley and concluded that it meets applicable federal requirements. ARB staff has also concluded that the implementation of the 2007 Ozone Plan would reduce ozone levels throughout the San Joaquin Valley and result in attainment of the 8-hour ozone standard by June 2024. ARB staff is recommending that the Board approve the San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan, as well as the updated transportation conformity budgets, emissions inventory, and progress demonstration, as a revision to the California SIP.

The 2007 Ozone Plan relies on emission reductions to be achieved from the proposed State Strategy for California's 2007 SIP (State Strategy). ARB is scheduled to consider the State Strategy at its June 21-22, 2007 meeting, and thus at the June 14, 2007 hearing ARB will be considering the 2007 Ozone Plan before the State Strategy has been approved. Therefore, final ARB approval of the 2007 Ozone Plan would be contingent upon ARB's subsequent adoption of commitments, as part of the State Strategy, to achieve the emission reductions from State measures that are relied on in the 2007 Ozone Plan.

ARB staff will present its recommendations to the Board at the meeting. Copies of a written Staff Report, which is expected to be available by May 24, 2007, may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, 1001 "I" Street, 1st Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990. The report may also be obtained from ARB's internet site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/sip/2007sip/2007sip.htm>.

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by email before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 13, 2007**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Facsimile submittal: (916) 322-3928

The Board requests, but does not require 30 copies of any written submission. Also, the ARB requests that written and email statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the meeting so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed Mr. Jeff Lindberg, Air Pollution Specialist, (916) 322-2832, 1001 "I" Street, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California 95812.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Date: May 15, 2007

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website at www.arb.ca.gov.