

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

**Item # 22-16-1: Public Meeting to Consider the 2022 Scoping
Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality**

Staff Recommendation:

Staff will present to the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) the 2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality (2022 Scoping Plan), which lays out a path to achieve targets for carbon neutrality and reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 85 percent below 1990 levels no later than 2045, as codified by Assembly Bill 1279 (Muratsuchi, Chapter 337, Statutes of 2022). As part of this agenda item, the Board will consider delegating to the CARB Executive Officer the task to collaborate with the Natural Resources Agency in establishing the expert advisory committee required by Assembly Bill 1757 (Garcia, Chapter 341, Statutes of 2022) to advise the state regarding carbon sequestration and other nature-based climate solutions to greenhouse gas emissions.

Staff will present an overview of the proposed actions and outcomes to achieve aggressive reductions in fossil fuel combustion by deploying clean technologies and fuels, continuing to ratchet down on short-lived climate pollutants, supporting sustainable development, increasing action on natural and working lands to reduce emissions and sequester carbon, and incorporating actions to capture and store carbon by implementing a strategy that achieves a balance of cost-effectiveness, health benefits, and technological feasibility. The plan also highlights the all-of-government approach needed for success and the importance of local government actions to help realize the transition to a clean energy future. This is the second of two Board hearings on the 2022 Scoping Plan. Staff recommends that the Board approve the 2022 Scoping Plan.

Discussion:

The initial Scoping Plan was developed in 2008 and, under Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32, Nuñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), must be updated at least once every five years. The 2013 First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan defined CARB's climate change priorities for the subsequent five years and laid the groundwork to start the transition to post-2020 goals. The 2017 Scoping Plan built upon this progress by charting a technologically feasible and cost-effective path to reduce GHG emissions at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 as codified by Senate Bill 32 (Pavley, Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016).

The 2022 Scoping Plan was developed through a robust public process, including consultation with the AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, and describes a path to meet the 2030 target, while identifying technologically feasible and cost-effective actions for achieving both carbon neutrality no later than 2045 and reducing anthropogenic emissions by 85 percent below 1990 levels. The 2022 Scoping Plan aligns with existing

statutes and Executive Orders and focuses on strategies that will reduce California's dependency on fossil fuels by transitioning to clean energy options and incorporating nature-based solutions from the state's natural and working lands to address climate change, improve air quality, and support economic growth. The 2022 Scoping Plan identifies the need to deploy all available tools to reach carbon neutrality, including carbon capture and sequestration as well as mechanical carbon dioxide removal such as direct air capture. The 2022 Scoping Plan integrates equity considerations, and emphasizes ensuring the transition to a zero-emission economy is affordable, and accessible, and facilitates uptake of clean technologies to deliver critical near-term air quality benefits in low-income, disadvantaged communities and communities of color. To that end over five dozen AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee recommendations are referenced in the 2022 Scoping Plan.

Summary and Impacts:

CARB staff is proposing that the Board approve the 2022 Scoping Plan. The evaluations of the 2022 Scoping Plan demonstrate GHG and air quality benefits, a negligible impact to the growing California economy in 2045 of less than one percent slowing in both job growth and in reduced gross state product, and over \$200 billion in public health benefits.