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I. INTRODUCTION

This *Final Draft Community Air Protection Blueprint for Selecting Communities, Preparing Community Emissions Reduction Programs, Identifying Statewide Strategies, and Conducting Community Air Monitoring* (Blueprint) document establishes the overall Program design, summarizes the main Community Air Protection Program (Program) elements, and describes the timeline for action.¹ To help build the Program, as described in this Blueprint, California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff have developed these appendices, which contain detailed implementation requirements including the following items that are required by Assembly Bill (AB) 617²:

- Statewide strategy to reduce emissions of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.
- Criteria and process for identifying and selecting impacted communities.
- Statewide air monitoring plan for the deployment of community air monitoring.
- Criteria for the development and implementation of community emissions reduction programs.

AB 617 requires CARB staff develop the statewide strategy and the statewide air monitoring plan by October 1, 2018.³ The CARB Governing Board will meet in September 2018 to consider this Blueprint and consider the selection of communities, to meet the October 1, 2018 statutory requirements.⁴

In line with additional elements set out in AB 617, CARB staff have also developed an online Resource Center to support communities throughout California.⁵ This online Resource Center provides the ability for CARB staff to deliver updates quickly to the public as new information becomes available. Information in the online Resource Center addresses AB 617 requirements for:

- Assessments of current air monitoring technologies and community air monitoring systems.⁶

¹ Appendix I provides a glossary to clarify the terms used in this document; it does not contain official definitions to be used for other purposes.

² Assembly Bill 617, Garcia, C., Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017, modified the California Health and Safety Code, amending § 40920.6, § 42400, and § 42402, and adding § 39607.1, § 40920.8, § 42411, § 42705.5, and § 44391.2. See Appendix H for complete bill language.

³ California Health and Safety Code § 44391.2 and § 42705.5(b).

⁴ California Health and Safety Code § 44391.2 and § 42705.5(b).

⁵ Appendix F provides more detail on CARB's online Resource Center.

⁶ California Health and Safety Code § 42705.5(b).

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- Technology clearinghouse.⁷
- Other community resources.

CARB will compile a list of documents, tools, and information to support effective implementation of the Program and make them available in the online Resource Center by October 1, 2018.

II. PROGRAM ELEMENTS

The Program established under AB 617 is comprehensive and includes community-focused elements designed to achieve emissions reductions and improve public health in communities with high cumulative exposure burdens (Figure A-1). The legislation also includes additional requirements that work together to support emissions reductions in communities through: accelerated installation of pollution controls on industrial sources like oil refineries, cement plants, and glass manufacturers; expanded air quality monitoring within communities; increased penalties for violations of emissions control limits; and greater transparency and improved public access to air quality and emissions data through enhanced online web tools. Each of these elements is addressed in greater detail in these appendices and in the online Resource Center.

Figure A-1 Community-Focused AB 617 Elements



⁷ California Health and Safety Code § 40920.8.

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CARB and the State’s regional air districts have specific roles and responsibilities in implementing the requirements of AB 617. Our agencies are committed to working closely with community residents and stakeholders to implement the Program. This includes also consulting with the Scientific Review Panel and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment during the development of the Program. Figure A-2 and Figure A-3 summarize the roles and responsibilities for CARB and the air districts, respectively, based on the AB 617 statutory requirements.⁸

Figure A-2 CARB AB 617 Statutory Responsibilities

STATE

- Identifying communities with high cumulative exposure burdens and selecting communities for deployment of community air monitoring and/or development and implementation of community emissions reduction programs, annually, as deemed appropriate.
- Developing a statewide strategy, including measures to reduce emissions and exposure, methods for identifying contributing sources, and criteria to serve as the benchmark that air districts must meet when developing and implementing community emissions reduction programs.
- Preparing a statewide air monitoring plan to assess current monitoring technologies and existing community monitoring programs, and provide criteria and guidance for developing future community air monitoring.
- Establishing and maintaining an emissions control technology clearinghouse.
- Establishing a statewide uniform system of annual emissions reporting for certain categories of sources.
- Implementing and enforcing CARB regulatory programs.
- Program review and oversight.

⁸ Assembly Bill 617, Garcia, C., Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017, modified the California Health and Safety Code, amending § 40920.6, § 42400, and § 42402, and adding § 39607.1, § 40920.8, § 42411, § 42705.5, and § 44391.2. See Appendix H for complete bill language.

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Figure A-3 Air District AB 617 Statutory Responsibilities

LOCAL

- Planning and conducting community air monitoring.
- Developing and implementing community emissions reduction programs and providing annual reports on progress.
- Implementing emission reporting requirements.
- Implementing and enforcing local regulatory efforts.
- Implementing expedited schedules for implementation of best available retrofit control technology.

Figure A-4 provides a summary of major Program and AB 617 milestones. Additionally, in support of this effort, staff are moving forward in implementing both the emissions reporting requirements⁹ and the Technology Clearinghouse.

⁹ The data received from the new annual emissions reporting system will be used to inform: the statewide assessment completed by CARB staff during the annual community selection process, source attribution developed as part of a community emissions reduction program, and to help track progress of community emissions reduction programs.

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Figure A-4 Summary of Milestones¹⁰

JULY 2017

- AB 617 signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

BY OCTOBER 2018

- CARB Governing Board selects communities for action in the first year and sets the Program requirements; CARB launches the online Resource Center which includes the Technology Clearinghouse to help identify the cleanest pollution control technologies and air monitoring assessments.

BY LATE 2018

- Air districts convene community steering committees for first-year communities and begin to develop the community emissions reduction programs and community air monitoring plans.

BY JANUARY 2019

- Air districts develop expedited schedules for implementing best available retrofit control technologies, which must be implemented by the end of 2023.

BY JULY 2019

- Air districts deploy monitoring in first-year communities selected for community air monitoring.

BY OCTOBER 2019

- Air districts adopt programs in first-year communities selected for community emissions reduction programs.

BY DECEMBER 2019 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- CARB Governing Board considers the selection of additional communities, as deemed appropriate, for community emissions reduction programs and community air monitoring plans.

BY EARLY 2020 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- CARB Governing Board action on air districts' community emissions reduction programs.

BY OCTOBER 2020 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- Air districts provide annual reports for community emissions reduction programs.

BY DECEMBER 2020 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- Within one year of the selection of additional communities, air districts adopt community emissions reduction programs and implement/deploy community air monitoring.

BY SEPTEMBER 2023

- CARB Governing Board updates the statewide strategy, which must be updated at least once every five years.

¹⁰ CARB staff will provide periodic updates to the CARB Governing Board.

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Table A-1 links the terms used in this Blueprint with the language in AB 617.

Table A-1 Mapping Program Terms with Language in AB 617

PROGRAM TERMINOLOGY	AB 617 TERMINOLOGY	CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION
Assessment of communities	“An assessment and identification of communities with high cumulative exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants.”	§ 42705.5(c) § 44391.2(b)(1)
Community air monitoring	“...any district containing a location selected...shall deploy a community air monitoring system in the selected location or locations....”	§ 42705.5(c)
Community air monitoring data portal	“...board shall publish the air quality data on its Internet Web site.”	§ 42705.5(e)
Community emissions reduction programs	“...the districts... shall adopt...a community emissions reduction program to achieve emissions reductions for the location selected...”	§ 44391.2(c)(2)
Community selection (for community air monitoring)	“...board shall select, concurrent with the monitoring plan... and based on an assessment of the locations of sensitive receptors and disadvantaged communities, the highest priority locations around the state to deploy community air monitoring systems, which shall be communities with high exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants.”	§ 42705.5(c)
Community selection (for community emissions reduction programs)	“... board shall select, concurrent with the strategy, locations around the state for preparation of community emissions reduction programs. The state board shall select additional locations annually thereafter, as appropriate.”	§ 44391.2(c)(1)
Disadvantaged community	“...means a community identified as disadvantaged pursuant to [California Health and Safety Code] Section 39711...”	§ 42705.5(a)(2)

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PROGRAM TERMINOLOGY	AB 617 TERMINOLOGY	CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION
Resources for community air monitoring	“...board shall prepare... a monitoring plan regarding the availability and effectiveness of toxic air contaminant and criteria air pollutant advanced sensing monitoring technologies and existing community air monitoring systems, as well as the need for and benefits of establishing additional community air monitoring systems...”	§ 42705.5(b)
Source attribution (for community emissions reduction programs)	“A methodology for assessing and identifying the contributing sources or categories of sources ...and an estimate of their relative contribution to elevated exposure to air pollution in impacted communities...”	§ 44391.2(b)(2)
Statewide strategy	“...board shall prepare... a statewide strategy to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants in communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden. The state board shall update the strategy at least once every five years....”	§ 44391.2(b)
Statewide system of annual emissions reporting	“...board... shall establish a uniform statewide system of annual reporting of emissions of criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminants for a stationary source.”	§ 39607.1(b)(1)
Technology Clearinghouse	“...board shall establish and maintain a statewide clearinghouse that identifies the best available control technology and best available retrofit control technology for criteria air pollutants, and related technologies for the control of toxic air contaminants....”	§ 40920.8(a)

III. PROGRAM REVIEW PROCESS

While this Blueprint establishes Program elements and requirements, Program implementation will be a dynamic and iterative process. CARB is committed to ongoing collaboration with communities, air districts, affected industry, and other stakeholders to continually review and improve the Program. AB 617 requires CARB to update Program elements periodically and obtain approval from the CARB Governing Board.¹¹ In addition, the online Resource Center allows the Program to evolve by adding new features and materials as they become available. If necessary, CARB's Executive Officer may clarify Program requirements by adopting changes to this Blueprint, by issuing advisories or additional guidance to enable effective implementation of the Program, provided that such changes are consistent with AB 617 and the goals established by the CARB Governing Board. CARB staff will also provide periodic updates to the CARB Governing Board.

As part of this Program review process, CARB staff will review air district annual progress reports, conduct additional analyses to track implementation progress, and seek opportunities to improve Program guidance. This may include development of new processes for engagement and coordination, or updated criteria. CARB will also conduct outreach to communities to obtain detailed perspectives on Program progress and success. This could include surveys to solicit community perspectives to supplement air district reports, CARB community meetings, and other activities. Learnings from initial Program implementation and outreach will serve as strong models for action and help build more effective programs for future communities with high cumulative exposure burdens. CARB staff will make this information publicly available by posting it in the online Resource Center, along with CARB points of contact and links to air district webpages and other resources to improve Program implementation.

¹¹ California Health and Safety Code § 42705.5(d) and § 44391.2.