AB 617 - Community Air Protection Program

CAPCOA Enforcement, Engineering & Toxics Symposium

November 7, 2017
Motivation for AB 617

- Historical focus on regional air quality
- Significant improvement, but disproportionate burdens remain
- Need for community-level focus
- Address cumulative exposure
- Take advantage of advances in monitoring technologies
Focus on Community Action

- Most significant air quality legislation in decades
- Establishes community focused framework
  - Enhanced information on community level air pollution
  - Community specific emission reduction programs
  - Focus on early actions
  - Emphasis on community participation
  - Builds on existing community level efforts
Delivering on AB 617 Goals

- Collaborative process involving CARB, air districts, and community representatives
- Clear goals and timelines for action
- Accountability and metrics for tracking progress
- Transparency and accessibility to information
Joint Implementation of Program Elements

**MONITORING**
- Identification of communities for monitoring
- Statewide Monitoring Plan
- District and community operated networks
- Statewide data display

**EMISSIONS**
- Statewide reporting system
- Statewide pollution mapping tool

**ACTION PLANS**
- Identification of communities for emission reduction programs
- Statewide Strategy
- District Community Emission Reduction Programs
- District BARCT implementation
- State and district strategies

**FUNDING**
- Incentive funding
- Community assistance grants
Community Identification

• Prioritize communities with highest exposure burdens
  • Deployment of community air monitoring
  • Development of community emission reduction programs
• Focus on disadvantaged communities and sensitive receptor locations
Statewide Monitoring Plan

By October 2018 with ongoing updates

- Review capabilities of air monitoring technologies
- Review existing community air monitoring systems
- Provide recommendations for additional air monitoring
- Establish guidance on best practices
Community Air Monitoring

• Deploy community air monitoring systems in identified communities by July 2019

• District and community led activities

• Develop tools for enhanced accessibility of air quality data
Building On Success

- Air district and community led activities provide successful models
  - IVAN Air Network
  - San Ysidro border traffic study
  - West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
  - South Coast AQ-SPEC Program, STAR Grant, MATES, Paramount
  - Sacramento wood smoke study
Community Involvement is Essential

- Identify issues
- Locate sites
- Plan community air monitoring study
- Conduct air monitoring
Important elements:
- Community involvement
- Equipment performance
- Monitor siting
- Quality assurance plan
- Calibration
- Maintenance and repair
- Data validation
- Communication of results

Questions:
What other elements are needed?
What practical learnings should we include?
Communicating Results

CARB will host a statewide data portal

Important principles:
- Data is easily accessible to the community
- Transparency regarding data processing steps
- Clear messaging about “what does it mean?”

Questions:
What other principles are important?
What do communities want to see?
Translating Data into Actions

Air Quality Monitoring
Understand nature of air quality problems in the region and identify sources of air pollution

Emissions Inventory
Provides emission estimates for sources

Air Quality Modeling
Correlates emissions to air quality and quantifies the reductions needed

Action Plan
Provides commitment for actions to reduce emissions and timeline
Statewide Reduction Strategy

By October 2018 with ongoing updates

- CARB’s blueprint for reducing emissions:
  - Methods for assessing exposure
  - Strategies for reducing emissions
  - Criteria for community emission reduction programs

CARB
District Community Emission Reduction Programs

By October 2019 with ongoing updates

- Districts’ plans for reducing emissions:
  - Specific actions, individualized for each community
  - Establishes reduction targets, implementation schedule and enforcement plan
Criteria for Successful Programs

- Quantitative public health goals
  - Air quality standards
  - Toxics risk reduction
- Clear metrics for tracking progress
  - Emission reductions
  - Investments in community level projects
- Public process and community engagement
- Strong science / monitoring foundation
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