

**Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
1 Year Work Plan
March 2018 – March 2019**

I. Project Title and Information

Report Number	AB617 – YR 1
Title	ICAPCD Annual Report AB617
Name of Grantee	Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
Grant Number	G17-CAPP-12
Grant Amount:	\$30,873.00

Background

In response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (C. Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Community Air Protection Program (CAPP), which focuses on air pollution exposure reduction in communities, the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD) submitted to CARB recommended communities based on documentation addressing 5 elements. These 5 elements include:

- 1) List of all communities recommended for action that year, including community descriptions, identifying characteristics, geographic boundaries, and applicable census tract(s):
 - A description of any air district assessments of communities identified for recommendation.
 - A description of each community's capacity to participate, including a summary of the air district's relationships with members of the recommended communities or 2 community-based organizations located in the recommended communities.
- 2) Description of the process used to refine the list communities.
- 3) If the communities are recommended for community air monitoring, a description of the known monitoring needs.
- 4) If the communities are recommended for community emissions reduction programs, provide the following information:
 - Description of air quality challenges affecting the community, and potential sources.
 - Confirmation that emissions sources are well-characterized in the community.
 - Confirmation that air monitoring results are available that characterize the high air pollution exposure burden experienced by the community well enough to inform community emissions reduction program development.

- Confirmation that sufficient data and resources are available to produce source attribution results for use in strategy development within the necessary time frames prescribed by statute.

For year 1, the ICAPCD has opted to enhance an existing air monitoring currently ran by Comite Civico del Valle and develop a workplan for a community emissions reduction program. For years 2 through 5 and beyond, the ICAPCD will continue our commitment to both, continue working on the enhancement of the community air monitoring campaign and a community emissions reduction program. Imperial County residents assisted the ICAPCD staff to select the communities and the final communities for years 1 through

To select year 1 through 5 communities, ICAPCD staff considered air quality and health data¹. Air quality data was obtained from the recent developed State Implementation Plan for PM2.5, CalEnviro tool, ICAPCD monitors, and local emission inventory. The Public Health Department and the Child Asthma Coalition provided the health data for the community recommendation. Other factors to determine the community recommendation were considered by community input, socio economic factors, and via statewide screening tools such as CalEnviro Screen.

Year 1: El Centro, Heber, and Calexico – Community Air Monitoring Campaign

Originally, the ICAPCD had recommended the Calexico and Westmorland communities. However, after thorough review of technical data and input from the community, the ICAPCD is officially recommending the communities of Calexico and El Centro. In addition, based on air quality and health data as well by the CalEnviro Screen were utilized to determine the communities most beneficial for year 1. For year 1, the ICAPCD will enhance the existing Community Air Monitoring Campaign in Calexico and El Centro.

YEAR 1 RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

El Centro

El Centro is the largest city in the Imperial Valley, east of the Southern California Border Region, it is located 54 miles W of Yuma, Arizona and 92 miles E of San Diego, California. It is the largest city in the Imperial Valley and situated below sea level. El Centro is the region's commercial center and includes farms and food processing facilities. The region is a primary winter vegetables production area. The city has an arid climate and receives less

than three inches of yearly rain. El Centro sources of air pollution include Imperial Irrigation District (IID) generating stations and various IID plants, Feedlots, wastewater treatment plant, Biomass plant (Mesquite Lake Power), and manufacturing centers.

¹ 2015-2016 Imperial County Health Status Report

Heber

Heber is an incorporated area. Heber is located 4.5 miles north-northwest of Calexico and 2.5 miles South of El Centro. Heber population in 2010 census was of 4,275. Heber's sources of air pollution include beef feedlots, geothermal, and light industrial facilities.

Calexico

The area contains relatively few major emission sources, but may experience significant vehicular traffic, particularly near Calexico, given proximity to an international port entry into the United States. Emission sources consist of geothermal power generation, food processing, plaster manufacturing, and other light industrial facilities. Imperial Valley agriculture produces a variety of crops including hay, vegetables, and dairy products. Beyond the urban and rural areas of Imperial County are large expanses of open desert and the Salton Sea with little human activity. According to the 2016 Census, Calexico has a population of 40,232.

Strategy

The ICAPCD worked together with the community stakeholders in strategizing the implementation of the AB 617 CAPP by evaluating Environmental Justice and low – income communities in the Imperial County. All interested parties were invited to attend public meetings and future steering committee meetings.

The steering committee will be the decision-making body, and charged with doing the work necessary to develop the CAMP and CERP.

In anticipation of the selection of communities to participate in the CAPP, both local air districts and citizens alike identified communities and submitted nominations to CARB. The ICAPCD partnered with a local advocacy and environmental justice group known as Comite Civico del Valle, Inc. (“CCV”) to author a report entitled Imperial County AB 617 Community Nominations, with the purpose of informing CARB on which communities within Imperial County should be selected to participate in the first year of the CAPP.

The ICAPCD also determined that both, a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) and a Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) will be prepared through this AB 617 CAPP opportunity. The ICAPCD will follow the requirements of the Community Air Protection Blueprint (Blueprint) to meet the programs strategies in developing the CAMP and the CERP.

In addition, the ICAPCD will collaborate with local partners to assemble a steering committee for the El Centro-Heber-Calexico Corridor. The AB 617 Community Steering Committee group will be involved with all aspects of the Monitoring Plan and Community Emissions Reduction Program

("Emissions Reduction Program"), including participant recruitment, identification of key objectives, monitoring site selection, emission reduction strategy selection, and evaluation and dissemination of results. The Steering Committee is also intended to maintain communication with other Community members throughout the planning process to gather input from concerned citizens and facilitate ongoing discussion.

Implementation of Expenditures

The implementation of AB617 requires significant resources. For year 1 through 5, funding is imperative for the enhancement of the CAMP and implementation of the CERP. Although the Imperial County has its first of a kind community-monitoring program in place, the program, as recommended by the Air District together with Comite Civico del Valle (CCV), is anticipated to be expanded to all Imperial County Communities, including tribal communities, Emission reduction program development, implementation and evaluation.

Communities in years 1 through 5 will need funding for a variety of activities to build community readiness to eventually develop an emission reduction programs and/or enhance the community air monitoring plan. AB 617 is envisioned as a community-based endeavor, and therefore communities will be at the center of planning and decision-making regarding local priorities for action. However, not all communities are at the same starting point, or level of readiness. At each stage of the process, community organizations will need financial assistance to support their participation. Funding is especially needed for the capacity building, plan development, and plan implementation and evaluation.

Work In Progress

The ICAPCD is currently working on the following activities:

1. Community monitoring – The ICAPCD will work with the AB 617 CSC in the development of the Community Air Monitoring Plan and its objectives. Surveys and dialog will continue until the final version of the plan is approved by the AB 617 CSC.
2. Community Emission Inventory – The ICAPCD with the assistance of RAMBOLL, CCV, and the AB617 is developing the CERP. CERP discussions are occurring during all CSB meetings. We anticipate the AB 617 CSC will approve the CERP in September and subsequent Board approval by the required deadline of October 1, 2019.
3. BARCT Implementation – The APCD is evaluating BARCT sources. If necessary, the ICAPCD will analyze rulemaking if need be, to establish BARCT requirements for these operations.

Year 1 Implementation of Expenditures

In addition, both air districts and CARB have implementation costs associated with meeting the requirements of statute, oversight responsibilities, and reporting requirements applicable to all AB617 CAPP.

The ICAPCD has incurred expenses through the implementation of AB617. The below expense report reflects the expenses incurred from March 2018 through March 2019.

AB617 - Imperial County APCD Expenses	
Specific Task Grant Cost Recovery	\$ 30,873.00
Researched and worked on CalEnviro for prioritization of community areas.	
Drafted, reviewed and submitted final recommendation nominations.	
Community meetings and developing the community corridor.	
Organized and hosted community meetings.	
Researched potential monitoring options, including professional and low cost sensor and monitoring platform for the enhanced community monitoring.	
*includes staff time	
Total Grant Funds Expended:	\$ 30,873.00
Total Grant Award: \$30,873	
Total Grant Fund Remaining:	0