

## **AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC) for 2022 Scoping Plan Update**

### **Recruiting Tribal member to EJAC**

This document describes efforts to recruit a Tribal member to the Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32, California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006) Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC). The California Air Resources Board (CARB) convened the EJAC in 2021 to advise on the development of the 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update. In recognition of the important government-to-government relationship California has with Tribes, CARB seeks California Native American Tribal participation in the 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update process and as a member of the EJAC.

In April 2021, CARB solicited applications to the EJAC to advise CARB on the development of the 2022 Scoping Plan Update. The solicitation was posted to CARB's website, emailed broadly to CARB's email lists for environmental justice, community air protection program, climate change and sustainable freight, tribal, and distributed by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to their networks including to Tribal members. CARB also posted the solicitation to their environmental justice blog. Efforts specific to Tribal outreach, including follow-up and next steps, are provided below.

### **CARB Efforts to recruit Tribal member to EJAC**

#### **April 2021**

- Original April 12<sup>th</sup> EJAC solicitation sent to Tribal email list by CalEPA. No tribal members or representatives applied to EJAC by the May 3, 2021 application deadline.
  - **Follow-up August 2021:** CARB Tribal Liaison followed-up with CalEPA on August 30<sup>th</sup> and CalEPA noted that they shared the request with Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) several times.
  - **Follow-up August 2021:** CalEPA resent request to the TAC for a Tribal EJAC member on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **May 2021**

- CARB Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) contacted CARB Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA) in May 2021 to ask a member of the Legislature for

## **AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC) for 2022 Scoping Plan Update**

recommendations of Tribes or individuals to serve on EJAC based on Board member recommendation.

- OLA reached out to a member of Legislature in May 2021.
- **Follow-up August 2021:** A Board member followed-up with a Legislative member.
- Board discussion during the May 2021 Board Meeting EJAC item identified gaps in tribal representation on EJAC, among other gaps. As such, the approved [Board resolution](#) delegated authority to the Executive Officer to appoint additional members to fill identified gaps in representation on EJAC, including tribal representation. (see [May 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting presentation](#)).

### **June 2021**

- OEJ met with a Tribal Chair to discuss EJAC in early June 2021.
  - Chair indicated that they do not have capacity for EJAC given funding limitations.
- On June 7, 2021 OEJ posted publicly and emailed Tribes suggested by Board members, the EJAC application solicitation for additional representatives directed by the Board to seek and appoint.
  - One Tribe replied that they do not have room for additional advisory committee work.
- An EJAC member has been working to secure Tribal representation since mid-June.

### **July 2021**

- OEJ spoke with three Tribal members during July 16<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting.
- [July 22<sup>nd</sup> News Release](#) noted that CARB staff did not receive any applications from Tribal members in response to the solicitation for additional members at the direction of the Board in the May 2021 Board Meeting and that CARB staff will continue to reach out to Tribal members directly to participate in Scoping Plan workshops.
- OEJ provided information about EJAC to a member of the public who offered to discuss with tribal government in Southern California.

## **AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC) for 2022 Scoping Plan Update**

### **August 2021**

- An EJAC member offered to introduce OEJ to a Tribal Conservancy.
- Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) staff contacted OEJ to help recruit Tribal member to EJAC.
- OEJ met with the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to discuss Partners Advancing Climate Equity (PACE) outreach to Tribes.
- CARB staff discussed EJAC Tribal vacancy with the CEC.
- CEC and CPUC informed the tribal members who applied to the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) of the opportunity to join EJAC.
- CEC and CPUC asked the DACAG to promote the EJAC opportunity with their networks.
- EJAC member contacted the CARB Tribal Liaison about tribal outreach. CARB Tribal Liaison sent emails to multiple Tribes and CalEPA. One Tribe responded that they would discuss and consider.
- A Tribal member indicated they are interested in participating as an EJAC member and OEJ is following up.

### **Next Steps**

CARB is pursuing numerous different avenues to recruit a Tribal member to the EJAC. Specific details are listed below.

- An EJAC member has met with a Tribal organization to discuss interest in EJAC representation and OEJ offered to be a part of this meeting.
- OEJ requested introduction from an EJAC member to the Tribal Conservancy.
- OEHHA followed-up with a Tribal member that is interested and planning to send email to OEJ.
- OEJ is awaiting a response from CEC on whether they will reach out to their Tribal representatives or provide their list of contacts to OEJ to reach out to.
- In their response to CARB's Tribal Liaison's outreach, one Tribe committed to see if they have the capacity and will reply to CARB.
- CEC and CPUC will ask the DACAG to promote the EJAC opportunity with their networks.

## **AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC) for 2022 Scoping Plan Update**

- SGC provided their outreach strategy to OEJ which included:
  - Tribal applications specified as a priority for recruitment.
  - Emphasize Tribes or Tribal-serving organizations in recruitment (flyers, emails, website, and webinar).
  - Clarified inclusion of non-federally recognized Tribes.
  - Outreach list of Tribes and Tribal-serving organizations.
  - Communicated early with the National Indian Justice Center to help get the word out to their large Tribal network.
  - Recommended stating how the time and effort from the Tribal member would be reflected in the Scoping Plan Update. It's best to ensure that Tribes understand the level of integration, especially since Tribes are sovereign nations.