

# California Air Resources Board Community Air Protection Program



## *Final Report Community Air Protection Program – Year 2*

The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) received a grant in fiscal year 2018-2019 from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for \$178,610. The grant is to support the District’s implementation efforts in support of California Assembly Bill 617 goals and objectives. This report describes the District’s efforts in accomplishing those goals. In accordance with Grant Agreement G18-CAPP-28, the below report includes the following sections: I. Grant Information, II. Associated Costs, III. Grant Utilization, IV. Summary of Work, V. Funds Remaining and Expended, and VI. Expenditure Summary.

- I. **Grant Information** (Report, Grantee, date of submission, grant number, and reporting period)
  - a. Final Report Year 2
  - b. Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
  - c. 05/19/2021
  - d. G18-CAPP-28
  - e. 04/04/2019 through 09/20/2020

II. **Associated Costs** (Costs associated with specific tasks)

Below is a table showing all District costs associated with the AB 617 implementation grant during the Fiscal Grant Term.

Description	Cost
<b>Community Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilingual outreach materials</li> <li>• Outreach events</li> <li>• Community group meetings</li> <li>• Bilingual surveys and data tracking</li> <li>• Video production equipment</li> <li>• Public meetings to discuss goals and implementation efforts</li> </ul>	\$102,317
<b>Air Quality Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toxic emissions inventory</li> <li>• Partnering in AB617 CTR regulation development</li> <li>• Inventory reporting regulation workgroup</li> </ul>	\$16,711
<b>Rules (BARCT)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional research on six facilities subject to BARCT schedule</li> <li>• Outreach to sources on BARCT impacts</li> <li>• Engineering support on BARCT</li> <li>• Continued development of rules on the BARCT schedule</li> <li>• AB617/BARCT public workshops and room rentals</li> </ul>	\$114,088
<b>Community Air Monitoring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost sensor deployment</li> <li>• Airpointer &amp; EBAM deployment</li> <li>• State and Local Air Monitoring</li> </ul>	\$141,144
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$374,260</b>

**III. Grant Utilization** (Report how grant is being utilized to meet the goals of Assembly Bill 617. If applicable, include emission reductions being achieved)

AB 617 directs CARB to establish the Community Air Protection Program to reduce exposure in communities most affected by air pollution. The goal is to prioritize air quality improvements in California's most polluted communities through enhanced monitoring and targeted deployment of cleaner technologies, with expanded community participation. While our District does not have any disadvantaged communities identified under SB 535, we do have low-income communities and communities that experience a higher pollution burden where we are able to focus our efforts (i.e., AB 1550 Low-income Communities).

The District used a variety of strategies to meet the goals of AB 617. We participated in several public outreach events throughout Santa Barbara County during the reporting period provided information in both English and Spanish, continued development of rules on our BARCT rule development schedule, installed Purple Air sensors throughout the District, deployed our EBAM, and continuously utilized our Clean Air Grants Program to advertise and promote the use of cleaner technology to support community health. In addition, the District focused a large amount of AB 617 efforts on our most populated low-income areas. These areas, according to the priority population maps provided by CARB, include the following regions: Guadalupe and a large portion of western Santa Maria; Cuyama; and portions of the cities of Lompoc, Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Carpinteria. Spanish speakers represent a significant portion of the population in these areas, so we provided bilingual outreach materials as much as possible. Some of the bilingual materials we provided included Clean Air Grant applications, outreach advertisements and flyers, surveys, air quality news and alerts, and Spanish resources on our website.

The District maintained a bilingual web page, [www.ourair.org/community-air](http://www.ourair.org/community-air), for stakeholders and the public. It contains background information, key elements of AB 617, the District's efforts within our county, proposed grant projects and approved projects, details of our BARCT schedule, links to the bilingual surveys and survey results. The District performed regular updates on the website to ensure visitors received up-to-date information.

Specific tasks and work products for the current reporting period are discussed in more detail in Section IV of this report.

**IV. Summary of Work** (Work completed and in progress since the last progress report)

***Community Programs, Events, Outreach:***

In Spring 2019, the District participated in two separate community outreach events. Santa Maria Open Streets, an all-day event in March 2019, that drew large crowds of Santa Maria and Guadalupe residents to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities and informational booths on a public street temporarily banned from vehicular traffic. In April 2019, District staff attended the Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival, a weekend-long, well-attended event where attendees learned more about environmentally friendly practices. In September of 2019, the District launched our Clean Air Grants program. We received 55 applications over the course of the 45-day application window and we were able to execute grants on 12 of those applications with Community Air Protection Incentive dollars. The project types were a combination of Infrastructure (4), Off-Road (3), School Bus (2), Marine (2), and On-Road (1).

The District participated in California Clean Air Day in October 2019, and incorporated AB 617 efforts into our involvement. This event was held at Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria, which is in the northern portion of Santa Barbara County. This event gave the District the ability to reach out to physicians, hospital staff, and patients. We were able to promote our programs that assist in healthy living practices and the feedback from this event was positive.

In addition to these events, the District held public meetings, including Community Advisory Council and District Board meetings, to discuss AB 617-related activities. In December 2019, the District produced a video demonstrating the function and use of the Airpointer portable monitoring system that was co-funded with AB 617 Year 1 Implementation Grant funds. The District's many different portable measurement tools were also presented at a District Board meeting in December 2019.

During part of this reporting period, coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic, traditional in-person outreach events were cancelled. Therefore, the District spent time planning ways to virtually connect with community groups, to build and strengthen relationships using digital platforms while awaiting in-person opportunities once public health guidelines allow.

At each District Board meeting, a summary update is provided on grant program activity that includes the emission-reduction grant agreements approved by the Air Pollution Control Officer since the last meeting. In May 2019 and again in June 2020, the District Board received presentations on all clean air grant and incentives programs administered by District staff for the prior fiscal year. These reports included a focus on the Community Air Protection Program and specified the project type and location for grant funds awarded. Lastly, at the June 2019 District Board meeting, staff presented on the Community Air Protection Program for February 1, 2019 to April 1, 2021 and secured Board support for local implementation. Each of these Board meetings provided an opportunity for community members to follow Board deliberations, present public comments, and observe through livestreaming.

In addition, District staff also presented our Clean Air Grants Program and AB 617 efforts to the County of Santa Barbara Agricultural Advisory Committee in 2019; participated in a CARB TRUCRS event in 2019; issued news releases regarding grant programs, included advertising in the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce newsletter; met in person and virtually with all of our local off-road equipment dealers to promote and answer any questions about our Clean Air Grants program; and, created bilingual print and online materials for our Clean Air Grants Program.

***Air Quality Planning:***

The District actively reviewed and tracked updates to CARB's Criteria and Toxics Reporting (CTR) Regulation. The CTR Regulation, and proposed amendments, will require modifications to the District's custom database tools and will also result in a significant amount of additional work for District staff and for affected sources. District staff actively participated in a CTR Regulation working group and provided feedback on proposed amendments to the regulation as well as provided responses to requests for information and review of impacted sources and local costs to implement the regulation.

**Rules and BARCT:**

As was required by AB 617, in December 2018 the District Board adopted an expedited rule development schedule for the implementation of BARCT (Best Available Retrofit Control Technology) at locations in our District that are subject to the California GHG Cap-and Trade program. There are six facilities in Santa Barbara County that are affected by the BARCT schedule. The BARCT schedule included proposed amendments to Rule 361, Small Boilers, Steam Generators and Process Heaters, and Rule 342, Control of Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) from Boilers, Steam Generators and Process Heaters. These two BARCT updates were proposed and approved at the June 20, 2019 District Board Hearing. Four rule development activities are planned for 2021 and 2022.

**Community Air Monitoring:**

To help address community-level air monitoring concerns in impacted communities, the District installed and operated Purple Air Sensors throughout the county. 38 sensors are deployed throughout the District; 15 of those were given to the District by CARB. Purple Air sensor locations are available here: [www.purpleair.com/map#9.68/34.7356/-120.2016](http://www.purpleair.com/map#9.68/34.7356/-120.2016) In addition, the District deployed two solar-powered Clarity Node S sensors that were operated at the Goleta and Santa Maria monitoring stations and were co-located with a reference method monitor to assess their accuracy. These low-cost sensors can help characterize air quality trends in impacted communities.

As mentioned above, in 2019 the District acquired an Airpointer portable air monitoring system that was co-funded with AB 617 Year 1 Implementation Grant funds. The system is compact and sophisticated and is capable of being deployed quickly at secure locations that have a power source. The Airpointer was originally capable of measuring hydrogen sulfide, PM2.5, PM10, and meteorological information simultaneously, and to store and report that data to the web in near-real-time. Upon receipt of the Airpointer, District air monitoring staff received specialized training from the equipment vendor. In late 2019, the District began test deployments of the Airpointer, developed a deployment plan and standard operating procedures, identified potential future deployment locations, and developed a spreadsheet tool to track deployments. In the spring of 2020, the District purchased and installed additional instrumentation for the Airpointer, including an ozone analyzer and a BTEX mini-gas chromatograph capable of measuring Benzene, Ethylbenzene, Toluene, and Xylene.

The District also has five State and Local Air Monitoring Stations (SLAMS) throughout the County that measure the typical concentrations in areas of high population density and/or to monitor the impacts of regional pollution. One SLAMS station was operated by the California Air Resources Board (Santa Maria) while the other four were operated by the District (Lompoc, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara, and Goleta). The Santa Maria and Santa Barbara stations were located in low-income communities as designated by AB 1550.

V. **Funds Remaining and Expended** (Grant funds remaining and expended)

- a. Total Implementation Funds: \$ 178,610
  - i. Expended funds: \$ 374,260
  - ii. Remaining funds: \$ 0

From April 4, 2019 through September 20, 2020 the District expended the entire Implementation Grant amount. A significant portion of those funds were used towards salaries (including overhead), while the remaining portion was used on public outreach materials, equipment and advertising associated with AB 617.

VI. **Expenditure Summary** (showing all Community Air Protection Program Implementation Fund expenditures) Section II provides a breakdown of District expenditures.