

California Air Resources Board

Community Air Protection Program



Reporting Period: 08/01/23 through 06/30/24
Community Air Protection Implementation Year 6

The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) received a grant in fiscal year 2023-2024 from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for \$93,960.00. The grant is to support the District's implementation efforts of California Assembly Bill 617 goals and objectives. This report describes the District's efforts in accomplishing those goals during the reporting period of August 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024. In accordance with Grant Agreement G22-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

- a. Report number: Final Report
- b. Title: Community Air Protection Implementation Year 6
- c. Grantee: Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
- d. Date of submission: 07/30/24
- e. Grant number: G22-CAPP-28

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
Community Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bilingual outreach materialsOutreach & community group meetingsPublic meetings to discuss goals and implementation effortsClean Air Rooms (Air Purifier Program)	\$20,836
Rules (BARCT) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Additional research on facilities subject to BARCT scheduleOutreach to sources related to BARCTEngineering support on BARCTContinued development of rules on the BARCT schedule	\$7,030
Other Community Air Protection Implementation Efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grant program parameters and preparation	\$4,223
TOTAL	\$32,089

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. We focused our efforts on Disadvantaged Communities as identified in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and AB 1550 Low-Income Communities, since they experience a higher pollution burden.

The District has used a variety of strategies to meet the goals of AB 617 since its inception. During this reporting period, we participated in several outreach events throughout Santa Barbara County, provided information in both English and Spanish, continued development of rules on our BARCT rule development schedule, operated PurpleAir sensors throughout the District, and through our Clean Air Grants and other incentive programs, we advertised and promoted the use of cleaner technology to support community health. In addition, the District continued to focus AB 617 efforts on our most populated low-income areas. In the Disadvantaged Community of Guadalupe, we continued to focus our recent program to provide air purifier replacement filters to local residents. The replacement filters were made available at no cost, two per household with proof of address. This community responded enthusiastically, and we were able to distribute hundreds of replacement filters to residents. The Air Purifier Replacement Filter Program was advertised through several outlets, including but not limited to Twitter, Instagram, NextDoor, and advertising with local businesses. Spanish speakers represent a significant portion of this community's population, so we utilized bilingual District staff to provide outreach materials as much as possible. Some of the bilingual materials we provided included outreach advertisements and flyers, air quality news and alerts, and Spanish resources on our website.

The District maintains a bilingual web page, 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 a bilingual survey, and survey results. The District performs regular updates on the website to ensure visitors receive 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:

During this reporting period, the District planned ways to connect with community groups and coordinated its participation with the following community events:

- Electric Landscape Equipment demonstration event: October 2023
- Santa Barbara Metro Transit District Ribbon Cutting for new 40' electric bus: October 2023
- Air Purifier Replacement Filter Program: November 2023
- Guadalupe Dunes Beach Clean Up Day: April 2024
- Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival: April 2024

The District held public meetings, including District Board meetings, to discuss AB 617-related activities. At each District Board meeting, a summary update was provided on grant program activity that included the emission-reduction grant agreements approved by the Air Pollution Control Officer since the previous meeting; every Board meeting also includes a summary of recent outreach efforts, including those related to AB 617 activities. In June 2024, the District Board received a presentation on Clean Air Grants and all the other incentive 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. Each of these Board meetings provides an opportunity for community members to follow Board deliberations, present public comments, and observe through livestreaming. District staff also tracks and posts potential CAP projects, as well as the projects that are funded, to our website for each funding year: www.ourair.org/community-air-protection-projects.

During this reporting period, the District also provided outreach resources and support to the Community Environmental Council (CEC) for their CARB Community Air Grant to conduct air quality monitoring and outreach in Guadalupe.

Rules and BARCT:

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 617, in December 2018 the District Board adopted an expedited rule development schedule for the implementation of BARCT (Best Available Retrofit Control Technology) at industrial facilities in our District that are subject to the California GHG Cap-and-Trade Program. There are six facilities in Santa Barbara County that were affected by the BARCT rule schedule. In prior years, District staff completed four of the six measures on the schedule that achieved emission reductions from boilers, process heaters, Particulate Matter (PM) control devices, and reciprocating internal combustion engines. For this reporting period, District staff actively worked on and completed the BARCT assessment for Miscellaneous Combustion Units, which was adopted by Board of Directors in October 2023. Another BARCT assessment was completed for Gas Turbines and Associated Duct Burners, which was adopted by the Board of Directors in January 2024. For both BARCT assessments, District staff worked with the affected facilities to incorporate all BARCT requirements directly into the facility's operating permit. Hence, rule proceedings were no longer necessary since BARCT-level controls were incorporated through the permit process.

Community Air Monitoring:

To help address community-level air monitoring concerns in impacted communities, the District maintains and operates over 45 low-cost PurpleAir sensors throughout the county, with locations available here: www.purpleair.com/map#9.68/34.7356/-120.2016.

The District owns and operates 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 is capable of measuring hydrogen sulfide, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, and meteorological information simultaneously, and has the ability to store and report that data to the web in real-time. 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 (BTEX).

The District 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 (Orcutt, Lompoc, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara, and Goleta). The Santa Barbara and Lompoc stations are located in low-income communities, as designated by AB 1550. The new Orcutt station was audited and approved by CARB, and now reports ozone data, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, and meteorological data to EPA, AirNow, and AirNow's Fire and Smoke Map.

Other Community Air Protection Implementation Efforts:

The District continues to develop and refine the Clean Air Grants program to solicit project ideas from the community, while remaining transparent on our project ranking and selection process. The District updated all grant program applications to incorporate ideas from prior year applicants as well as staff members, while also implementing recent updates to our standard grant agreement language, ensuring our language remains compliant with CARB requirements. We also have a newly streamlined digital signature element for grant applications and standard grant agreements to better assist our applicants. The District continues to work with members of the public on outreach for our CAP program and continually develops and expands upon our digital outreach list, which has grown to over 1,200 contacts.

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

- a. Total Implementation Funds: \$ 93,960
 - i. Expended funds: \$ 32,087
 - ii. Remaining funds: \$ 61,873

From August 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024 the District expended more than 34% of the Implementation Grant amount.

VI. Expenditure Summary (showing all Community Air Protection Program Implementation Funds for which reimbursement is being requested)

Section II provides a breakdown of District expenditures.