CALIFORNIA
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Research Solicitation Public Meeting

March 4, 2026

CARB Research Project Priorities

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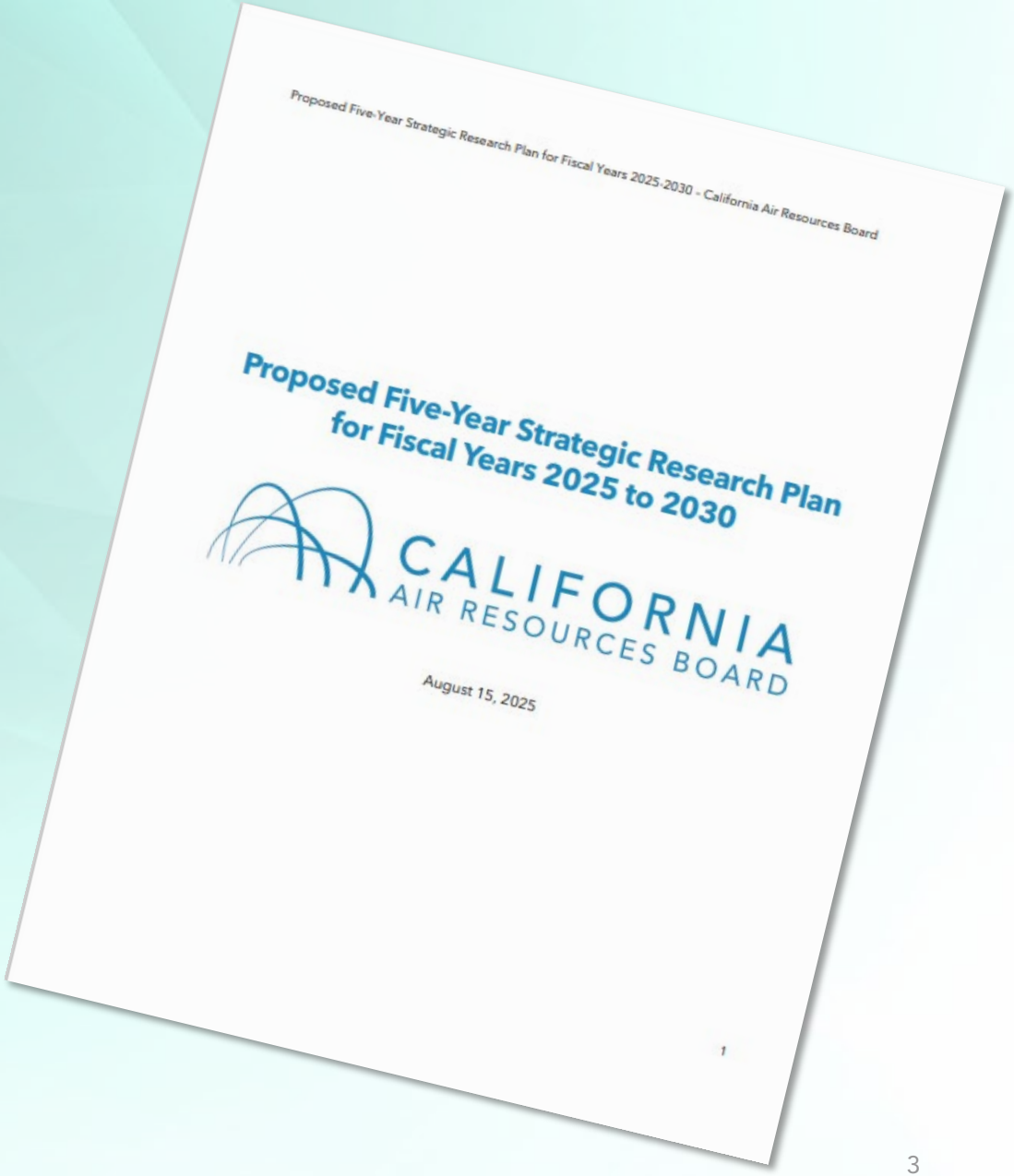
Strategic Research Plans

- Public process
- Priorities
- Strategic
- Project selection
- Racial equity and environmental justice
- Planning
- Five-Year Strategic Research Plan – 2025-2030



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Projects included in FY26-27 solicitation

- Advancing The Application of Real-time Toxic Air Contaminant /Hazardous Air Pollutant (TAC/HAP) Measurement Technologies Through Long-term Monitoring
  - $900,000
- Investigating Long-Term Continuous Soil Nitrogenous Emission Rates Using Ambient Measurements
  - $1,300,000
- More to come in the May solicitation and through the RFP process

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Important Dates

Date	Milestone
March 16	Letters of interest requested – email to research@arb.ca.gov
April 17	Pre-proposals due – email to research@arb.ca.gov
May 11	All pre-proposal submitters notified of the status of their application
May 29	Full proposals due – email to research@arb.ca.gov
January-March 2027	Kickoff executed contracts

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Pre-Proposal Requirements

- **Use template provided on solicitation landing page**
- Pre-proposal
  - Not to exceed 5 pages
  - Include approach for conducting research
  - Tip: check scoring criteria
  - Tip: Do not copy solicitation text
- CV or Statement of Qualifications for entire project team
- Describe relevant experience
- Preliminary Budget
- Equity components
  - Differs by project

Budget Category	TOTAL
DIRECT COSTS	$0
PERSONNEL (Salary and Fringe Benefits	$0
TRAVEL	$0
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	$0
EQUIPMENT	$0
CONSULTANT	$0
SUBAWARDEE(S) (CONSORTIUM/SUBRECIPEINT)	$0
OTHER DIRECT COSTS (ODC) (Subject to IDC Cal? Y/N)	$0
TOTAL DIRECT COST (sum of All Direct Costs)	$0
INDIRECT (F&A) COSTS (BASE)*	$0
Overhead (Assumed Rate: 27%)	$0
TOTAL F&A COSTS (Indirect Costs Base times overhead rate)	$0
TOTAL PROJECT COST (Total Direct Costs Base times Total F&A Costs)	$0

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Equity Deliverables

- Common to all projects
  - Racial equity training (implicit bias training or similar) within first few months of contract execution
  - Plain-language outreach materials
  - Quarterly updates for website
  - Equity implications, plain-language summary in final report
    - If equity analysis is required, an equity expert should be part of team
  - Publicly available peer-reviewed articles
  - Final seminar geared toward a wide audience
  - Answering equity related questions about the project concept in the pre-proposal

Contracting

- Contracts – not grants
- Required by H&S code to look for expertise in UC/CSUs
  - Inter-agency agreement with UC/CSU
    - 27% assumed overhead rate (see FAQ for details)
  - Sub-contractors can come from any other university, private research institution or firm, community-based organization, etc.
  - Sub-contractors can receive up to 25% of budget
    - Up to 50% if it can be demonstrated that no expertise exists within the UC/CSU and the contract requirements call for it

Contracting (Continued)

- Advisory Body Transparency Rules
  - No members (or alternatives to the advisory body members who are appointed by the Board) of CARB advisory bodies can be signatories to the contract or communicate with CARB regarding CARB's decision on the contracts without significant legal risk per government code 87104.
- Advisory Bodies affected
  - AB32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee
  - AB 617 Consultation Group
  - Scientific Toxic Review Panel
  - Research Screening Committee
  - Natural and Working Lands Expert Advisory Committee (Under AB 1757)

Project Descriptions

Advancing The Application of Real-time Toxic Air Contaminant/Hazardous Air Pollutant (TAC/HAP) Measurement Technologies Through Long-term Monitoring ($900k)

- **Objectives:**
  - Evaluate the feasibility of, and facilitate, the long-term deployment of advanced real-time mass spectrometry-based techniques to address key gaps in current air toxics and VOC monitoring data and methods, and improve source characterization
- **Desired Outcomes:**
  - **Plan Field Study:** In collaboration with CARB and SCAQMD, deploy and operate advanced mass spectrometry technologies (PTR-ToF-MS, CIMS) at a selected site in Wilmington, an AB617 community, chosen for its proximity to diverse air toxic sources and existing infrastructure to maximize scientific outcomes while minimizing deployment risks
  - **Conduct Field Measurements:** Conduct long-term PTR-ToF-MS and seasonal CIMS measurements to acquire a broad range of air toxics and VOCs dataset, complemented by offline sampling for intercomparison and novel OH reactivity measurements
  - **Data Analysis:** Perform data analysis to identify and quantify a suite of air toxics and VOCs, assess their trends and contribution to secondary pollutant formation, and apply statistical models for an improved source characterization
- **Contact for questions:** Chinmoy Sarkar (Chinmoy.Sarkar@arb.ca.gov)

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Investigating Long-Term Continuous Soil Nitrogenous Emission Rates Using Ambient Measurements ($1.3M)

Objectives:

- Improve our understanding of the magnitude and significance of soil nitrogenous emissions in the San Joaquin Valley, through long-term continuous data collection from key agricultural field types.

Desired Outcomes:

- **Develop a Field Study Plan –** In collaboration with CARB, develop a comprehensive data collection and processing plan detailing the measurement methodologies for gaseous emissions and supporting data. The plan will incorporate technically feasible methods that enable evaluation of biogeochemical models (DNDC, MEGAN, MEGAN-BDSNP, etc.).

Contact for questions: Dr. Angelica Carrazco (Angelica.Carrazco@arb.ca.gov)

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Investigating Long-Term Continuous Soil Nitrogenous Emission Rates Using Ambient Measurements ($1.3M)

Desired Outcomes (continued):

- **Deploy and Conduct Field Measurements –** Conduct field measurements of nitrogenous emissions across a minimum of three agricultural field types using eddy covariance flux methods over a period of at least one year. Collect robust supporting data on key input parameters necessary for biogeochemical model evaluation.
- **QA/QC and Dataset Construction –** Develop and implement QA/QC procedures and process, and format datasets in a method that meets CARB's needs.
- **Data Analysis –** Perform data analysis using statistical and computational methods appropriate for high-temporal resolution emissions data and supporting measurements collected.
- **Final Report –** Submit the study's data, draft final report, and final report to CARB.

Contact for questions: Dr. Angelica Carrazco (Angelica.Carrazco@arb.ca.gov)

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