State of California Air Resources Board Board Item Summary

Item # 22-7-3: 2020-2021 Haagen-Smit Clean Air Awards

Staff Recommendation:

This is an informational item only; no Board action is necessary.

Discussion:

Since 2001, the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) has annually bestowed the distinguished Haagen-Smit Awards to extraordinary individuals to recognize significant career accomplishments in air quality and climate change. Due to the hiatus in awards necessitated by the pandemic, this set of prizes is designated as being for the combined years of 2020 and 2021.

The 2020-2021 Award Recipients Are:

Richard Somerville, Ph.D.

Dr. Richard Somerville has been a professor at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego since 1979. Dr. Somerville is an internationally recognized climate scientist, doing research that has led to many important innovations in climate computer models. He has copiously published research on a myriad of climate science topics including geophysical fluid dynamics, thermal convection, and radiative transfer, to name just a few. But moreover, Dr. Somerville has extensively served as an expert on communicating to the public what scientists have learned about climate change. He is being honored in the Climate Change Science category.

Paul Ong, Ph.D.

Dr. Paul Ong has engaged in a lifetime career of multifaceted commitment to air quality and community service. Specifically, he has worked for over three decades as a scientist and educator on interdisciplinary social science teaching, policy-focused research, and community engagement – and he is now the Director of the Center for Neighborhood Knowledge at the University of California Los Angeles that works to contribute to positive social change through information from applied research at regional scales. Dr. Ong's more than 100 publications addressing racial inequalities have had an outsized influence on concerns for environmental justice. He is being honored in the Community Service / Environmental Justice category.

Kunshing Li, M.E.

Mr. Kunsheng Li has worked for over 20 years on the management of vehicle emissions in China, with a focus on Beijing. Like the leading role on air quality that California has played for other parts of the United States, Beijing has similarly led the way toward greatly improved air quality for China. Mr. Li steadily promoted and implemented numerous mobile source

emission control measures and coordinated legislation that significantly contributed to the improvement of Beijing's atmospheric environmental quality, with Beijing becoming China's leading city on mobile source emissions control. He is being honored in the category of International Leadership.

Jürgen Resch

Mr. Jürgen Resch is an Executive Director of Environmental Action Germany, one of the most active non-governmental organizations in Germany for clean air policy. Mr. Resch has worked tirelessly to create broad alliances across nongovernmental, scientific, and industrial organizations for bringing forward available technology to reduce air pollution. Moreover, Mr. Resch has persistently championed the need for legal jurisdiction of environmental rights, regulatory legislation, and strong market surveillance -- and has not hesitated to uncover fraud. For example, he took action in Germany on the automaker diesel scandal by providing solid data on real world emissions and taking legal action to get access to relevant information. He is being honored in the Environmental Policy category.

Stephen Schwartz, Ph.D.

Dr. Stephen Schwartz has been a Senior Scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory since 1975. Trained as a chemist with specialization in physical chemistry, Dr. Schwartz has become a recognized expert in atmospheric chemistry, radiative forcing of climate change, and the response of climate to anthropogenic factors. His research specialty is the influences of energy related emissions on climate, with a focus on the role of atmospheric aerosols. Several of Dr. Schwartz's publications have been highly influential research milestones and have impacted important policies including the Clean Air Act. He is being honored in the category of Research.

David Kittelson, Ph.D.

Dr. David Kittelson has been a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Minnesota since 1980. Dr. Kittelson is considered "the" world leader and pioneer of diesel emission research, who very early on in the 1970s began lecturing auto manufacturers and agencies on the human health impacts of diesel particulate pollution and the need for mitigation. His research, at the frontier of combustion engine emission studies, provided the fundamental foundational knowledge of diesel particle formation that enabled today's current stringent regulations. He has also worked tirelessly on technologies to reduce emissions from engines while also improving performance. He is being honored in the Science / Technology category.

Summary and Impacts:

Not applicable.