

**State of California
Air Resources Board
Board Item Summary**

**Item # 22-9-1: Public Meeting to Hear an Overview of the Draft
2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan**

Staff Recommendation:

This is the first of two hearings on this item. No Board action is required at the June 23, 2022, Board meeting.

Discussion:

The initial Scoping Plan was developed in 2008 and, per Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Nunez, Stats. of 2006, Chap.488), must be updated at least once every five years. The 2013 First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan (2013 Update) defined the California Air Resources Board's (CARB or Board) climate change priorities for the subsequent five years and laid the groundwork to start the transition to the post-2020 goals. The 2017 Scoping Plan Update (2017 Update) built upon this progress by charting a technologically feasible and cost-effective path to achieving the 2030 GHG emissions target of 40 percent below 1990 levels as codified under Senate Bill (SB) 32 (Pavley, Stats. of 2016, Chap.249).

CARB is now in the process of again updating the Scoping Plan to meet the 2022 statutory deadline. The Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update assesses progress toward the statutory 2030 target, while laying out a path to achieving carbon neutrality no later than 2045. The Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update focuses on outcomes needed to achieve carbon neutrality by assessing paths for clean technology, energy deployment, natural and working lands, and others, and is designed to meet the State's long-term climate objectives and support a range of economic, environmental, energy security, environmental justice, and public health priorities while also delivering critical near-term air quality benefits in vulnerable communities.

Summary and Impacts:

Achieving carbon neutrality will bring a number of changes to California. The Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update reflects a drastic reduction in fossil fuel production and consumption across the economy with a corresponding increase in supply and demand of clean, affordable, and reliable energy sources. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing and replacing fossil fuels is expected to significantly reduce exposure to air pollution, and therefore reduce incidences of associated health impacts such as asthma and other serious health conditions, particularly in vulnerable communities. In addition, this is the first Scoping Plan to comprehensively assess the contribution that Natural and Working Lands can make towards achieving carbon neutrality. Improvements to land management practices are expected to reduce exposure to harmful smoke caused by catastrophic wildfires, and to reduce exposure to synthetic chemicals.

This Scoping Plan update has the longest planning horizon of any previously approved Scoping Plan, befitting the focus on outcomes that ensure alternatives to fossil fuels are readily available by focusing on technologically feasible and cost-effective options. The Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update provides an actionable plan with recommendations for every sector and will serve as a reference point for future action, including regulatory measures, funding, technology research and deployment, permitting actions, incentives, and more.

The environmental analysis of the Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update was posted on May 10, 2022, with the draft plan and associated appendices, and assesses potential environmental impacts associated with adoption and implementation of the plan. Staff are soliciting comments on the package through June 24, 2022. The Scoping Plan is required to achieve statutory requirements outlined in AB 32, including providing direct GHG emissions reductions and air quality benefits, minimizing emissions leakage, facilitating sub-national and national collaboration, and supporting cost-effective and flexible compliance.