

Proposed
State of California
Air Resources Board

Proposed Research Projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Resolution 23-5

January 26, 2023

Agenda Item No.: 23-1-5

Whereas, sections 39600 and 39601 of the Health and Safety Code authorize the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) to adopt standards, rules and regulations and to do such acts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the powers and duties granted to and imposed upon the Board by law;

Whereas, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 39703, CARB has been directed to administer and coordinate all air pollution research funded, in whole or in part, with state funds;

Whereas, staff developed the Proposed Research Projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, containing a list of projects and additional project priorities, as set forth in the document released to the public on December 21, 2022;

Whereas, research included in the Proposed Research Projects will advance the state of the science and support CARB's efforts to meet California's air quality, environmental justice, and climate goals;

Whereas, CARB's regulatory program that involves the adoption, approval, amendment, or repeal of standards, rules, regulations, or plans has been certified by the Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15251(d)), and CARB conducts its CEQA review according to this certified program (California Code of Regulations, title 17, sections 60000-60007);

Whereas, staff has determined that the proposed research projects are exempt from CEQA under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3) ("common sense" exemption) because the record evidence shows with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed activity may result in a significant adverse impact on the environment, as described in the Staff Report;

Whereas, the Board finds that:

The Proposed Research Projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 satisfies Health and Safety Code Section 39701, which requires CARB to coordinate and collect research data on air pollution, including investigating air pollution problems and solutions and identifying knowledge gaps. The projects proposed for Fiscal Year 2023-24 are designed to support the development of new policies and regulations, track

implementation and co-benefits of existing programs, maximize the benefits of longer-term strategies, and advance the state of the science in the areas of health, environmental justice, air quality, and climate.

The proposed research projects were developed through a public process. The process began with a public solicitation for research concepts in the spring of 2022. Concepts were prioritized in consultation with CARB staff and external stakeholders, through individual meetings and a public workshop on September 14, 2022. The public meeting included a public comment period and other outreach efforts.

The proposal is consistent with CARB's environmental justice policies and does not disproportionately impact people of any race, culture, income, or national origin.

The proposed research projects are exempt from CEQA under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3) because substantial evidence in the record shows with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed projects may result in a significant adverse impact on the environment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board hereby approves the proposed research projects as set forth in the Proposed Research Projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, released to the public on December 21, 2022, and delegates authority to execute individual contracts to the Executive Officer for fiscal years 2023-2025, with consultation of interested Board members, notwithstanding Resolution 78-10.