State of California Air Resources Board

Board Item Summary

Item # 25-6-6: Public Meeting to Consider Proposed New Members

for the California Air Resources Board's Research

Screening Committee

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board approve resolution 25-7, to appoint two new members for the California Air Resources Board's (CARB or Board) Research Screening Committee (RSC).

Discussion:

As required by State law (Health and Safety Code § 39700), CARB sponsors a research program that is guided by the mission to provide sound and timely scientific results to support CARB's policies and programs. State law also requires that CARB establish an RSC to review proposed and completed research projects. Since 1971, CARB has maintained an eleven-member committee that provides robust scientific peer review for CARB's research projects. The RSC currently has multiple vacancies that have resulted from retirements and other transitions.

In December 2024, CARB released a public call for nominations and applications to fill positions on the RSC. The nomination period closed in January 2025 and applications were due the next month. CARB received and reviewed applications for several expertise. Dr. Danae Hernandez-Cortes, Assistant Professor at Arizona State University, has demonstrated experience in environmental justice research with secondary expertise in community-based research, and Dr. Bradley Thomas has demonstrated experience in transportation systems and vehicle technology research. Both have met the criteria set forth in the selection process.

Summary and Impacts:

The report includes the biography of the two proposed new RSC members, Dr. Danae Hernandez-Cortes and Dr. Thomas Bradley will fill current vacancies on the RSC and provide insight and expertise to support the review of new and completed research projects. Board approval of resolution 25-7 will authorize the appointment of the two proposed members to the RSC.