

State of California Air Resources Board

Board Item Summary

Item # 25-7-1: Public Meeting to Consider Addition of Diane Takvorian to the AB 617 Community Air Protection Consultation Group as Co-Chair

Staff Recommendation:

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff recommends that the Board approve resolution 25-10 to confirm the appointment of Board Member Diane Takvorian to the Community Air Protection Consultation Group as a New Member and Co-Chair.

Discussion:

Assembly Bill 617 (C. Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017) requires CARB to develop and update a statewide strategy every five years to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants in communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden. CARB is required to develop and update this strategy in consultation with "the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants, the districts, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, environmental justice organizations, affected industry, and other interested stakeholders." In 2017, CARB established the Community Air Protection Program (CAPP), and in 2018, formed a 25-member Consultation Group to advise CARB on its state strategy to implement AB 617, known as the Program Blueprint.

Between 2018 and 2024, the Consultation Group advised CARB on the implementation of the Program Blueprint and subsequently Blueprint 2.0. The Consultation Group was chaired first by Board Member Dr. John Balmes, and later co-chaired by Board Member Davina Hurt. In March 2024, CARB staff dissolved the Consultation Group in response to the attrition of members, most of whom had served since its establishment in 2018.

In June 2025, the Board appointed 27 members to reinvigorate the Consultation Group and expand its representation to include more community and air district members, and to add local government voices. On September 8, 2025, the newly reinvigorated Consultation Group held its first meeting with Board member Dr. John Balmes serving as Chair.

The Board's approval of resolution 25-10 will authorize the appointment of Board member Diane Takvorian as a member and Co-Chair of the Consultation Group. If appointed, Board Member Takvorian will provide additional governance and perspective for social and environmental justice policy and leadership. Board member Takvorian, as listed in the resolution, will serve a four-year term as set out in the Board resolution and the draft

Consultation Group Charter. After approval of the draft Charter by the members, the revised draft Charter will be brought to the Board for approval at a future Board meeting.

Summary and Impacts:

The Consultation Group presents an important opportunity for a diverse group of representatives with different perspectives, expertise, and experience to advise CARB on the implementation of Blueprint 2.0. This action adds support and continuity in leadership by approving the appointment of Board Member Diane Takvorian, continuing to promote the agency's commitment to environmental justice, which includes programs that reduce exposure to pollutants and improve the quality of life in communities facing environmental and economic challenges.