

State of California Air Resources Board

Board Item Summary

Item # 26-5-1: Public Meeting to Consider the Appointment of New Members to Assembly Bill 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) approve the proposed resolution appointing 11 members and 2 alternate members to the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC), as authorized by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 32](#) (Nunez, Chapter 448, Statutes 2006, California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, Health & Saf. Code § 38500 et seq).

Discussion:

AB 32 directed CARB, through [Health and Safety Code section 38591](#), to convene an EJAC of at least three members to advise the Board in developing the Scoping Plan and any other pertinent matter in implementing AB 32. Per statute, EJAC shall be comprised of representatives from communities in the state with the most significant exposure to air pollution, including, but not limited to, communities with minority populations or low-income populations, or both.

On February 20, 2026, CARB released the EJAC solicitation. To expand outreach, CARB provided a 14-day extension and the application period closed on May 5, 2026. CARB received applications from various regions throughout California. CARB staff considered the AB 32 statutory requirements, the need for diverse geographic representation, and the importance of community and environmental justice experience to determine proposed membership.

Proposed AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Members

Staff proposes that the Board appoint the recommended 11 members and 2 alternates to CARB's AB 32 EJAC as provided below. If appointed, the EJAC members and their respective alternates, as listed here and in the Board Resolution, will serve as community representatives advising the Board on the Scoping Plan and other AB 32-related matters. EJAC members and their alternates will serve for a term of 36 months, as outlined in the [EJAC Charter](#) and Board Resolution.

- Alex Mantanona, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)
- Catherine Baltazar, Climate Resolve
- Edidiong Mendie, Ezrach Brain Trust Association
- Franco Pacheco, Inland Valley Alliance for Environmental Justice
 - Alternate: Karla Cervantes
- Jeffrey Sanchez, Sequoia Foundation (Bay Area Public Health Non-Profit)
- Jennifer Elkins, Grassroots Organizers for Accountable Landfills (GOAL)
- Kamillah Ealom, Bayview Community Concerned Citizens
- Leonard Powell, Sonoma Clean Power (SCP)
 - Alternate: Lawrence Brooks
- Martha Dina Argüello, Physicians for Social Responsibility- Los Angeles (PSR-LA)
- Rio Oxas, RAHOK
- Thomas Helme, Valley Improvement Projects (VIP)

Summary and Impacts:

New member appointments to CARB's AB 32 EJAC allow for continued engagement on AB 32 environmental justice matters. EJAC advises CARB on developing the Scoping Plan and implementing AB 32-related programs.