

# California Air Resources Board

## Notice of Public Meeting to Consider the Coachella Valley 75 ppb 8-Hour Ozone Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the date and time noted below to consider adoption of the Coachella Valley 75 parts per billion (ppb) 8-Hour Ozone Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan (Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan).

Date: November 17, 2022

Time: 9:00 A.M.

In-Person Location:

California Air Resources Board  
Byron Sher Auditorium  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Remote Option:

Zoom

This public meeting may continue at 8:30 a.m., on November 18, 2022. Please consult the public agenda, which will be posted ten days before the November 17, 2022, Board Meeting, for important details, including the day on which this item will be considered and how the public can participate via Zoom if they choose to be remote.

## Background

In 2012, the Coachella Valley ozone nonattainment area (Coachella Valley) was designated nonattainment for the 75 ppb 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard (standard) with a classification of Severe. To meet Clean Air Act (Act) requirements for the Coachella Valley, together with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (District), CARB developed and submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions that fulfilled all the requirements of the Act including for an attainment demonstration, reasonable further progress (RFP) demonstration, and corresponding motor vehicle emission budgets (MVEB). MVEBs are established so transportation activities, such as Regional Transportation Plans and Federal Transportation Improvement Programs, do not interfere with attainment or maintenance of air quality standards. U.S. EPA approved the Coachella Valley 75 ppb Severe ozone SIP in 2020, including the MVEBs which relied on CARB's on-road mobile source emissions factor model, EMFAC2014 Ed.

CARB's latest mobile emission inventory model, EMFAC2017, was approved by U.S. EPA for use on August 15, 2019. EMFAC2017 includes updated activity levels and emission rates for

on-road heavy-duty vehicles and other mobile sources now available as a result of ongoing CARB staff work. Due to the update with this new information, estimated future year, on-road, mobile source emissions in many areas of the State are higher than estimated in EMFAC2014, including the Coachella Valley.

To update the MVEBs with EMFAC2017 and to be consistent with the Coachella Valley 80 ppb ozone classification of Extreme, the District is requesting that the Coachella Valley also be classified as Extreme for the 75 ppb ozone standard. The new classification requires that the District develop a new SIP that demonstrates attainment by the Extreme deadline of July 20, 2032, and addresses other requirements of the Act such as an RFP demonstration and corresponding MVEBs.

While the District will develop the attainment demonstration for the Coachella Valley later in 2023, on November 4, 2022, the District will consider approval of the Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan and associated MVEBs. CARB staff has reviewed the Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan that the District will consider on November 4, 2022, and has concluded that it meets the requirements of the Act for an emissions inventory and for RFP and demonstrates that the area will achieve precursor emission reductions of 3 percent per year from the baseline year of the plan, 2011, until the attainment year, 2031. Further, the updated MVEBs are consistent with the RFP demonstration.

## Proposed Action

If the District adopts the Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan as provided to CARB for consideration, CARB staff recommends that the Board adopt the Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan and direct staff to submit it to U.S. EPA as a revision to the California SIP. CARB staff will present a written staff report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from CARB's website at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/california-state-implementation-plans/nonattainment-area-plans/south-coast-air>, starting on October 7, 2022. Please contact Chris Hopkins, Regulations Coordinator, at [Chris.Hopkins@arb.ca.gov](mailto:Chris.Hopkins@arb.ca.gov) or (279) 208-7347 if you need physical copies of the documents.

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing during the meeting and may provide comments by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments not submitted during the meeting, must be received **no later than November 7, 2022**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerks' Office, California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

*Electronic submittal:* <http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request.

Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Scott King, Air Pollution Specialist, South Coast Air Quality Planning Section at (279) 842-9124 or Ariel Fideldy, Air Resources Supervisor I, South Coast Air Quality Planning Section at (279) 208-7225.

## Environmental Analysis

CARB has determined that the proposed Coachella Valley 75 ppb Extreme RFP Plan is a ministerial activity by CARB for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15268). A “ministerial” decision is one that involves fixed standards or objective measurements, and the agency has no discretion to shape the activity in response to environmental concerns (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15369; *San Diego Navy Broadway Complex Coalition v. City of San Diego* (2010) 185 Cal.App.4th 924, 934). Because CARB lacks authority to modify a SIP submittal that fully complies with all federal Clean Air Act requirements, its action here is ministerial.

## Special Accommodation Request

Consistent with California Government Code section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the hearing;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; and
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerks’ Office at [cotb@arb.ca.gov](mailto:cotb@arb.ca.gov) or (916) 322-5594 as soon as possible, but no later than ten business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alternativo u otro idioma; y
- Una acomodación razonable relacionados con una incapacidad.

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al [cotb@arb.ca.gov](mailto:cotb@arb.ca.gov) o (916) 322-5594 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

California Air Resources Board



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Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D.,  
Executive Officer

Date: October 7, 2022

*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see [CARB’s website](http://www.arb.ca.gov) (www.arb.ca.gov).*