

California Air Resources Board

Notice of Public Meeting to Consider the 2026 Updates to Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the San Joaquin Valley 75 parts per billion Ozone 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 the adoption of the 2026 Updates to Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the San Joaquin Valley 75 parts per billion Ozone State Implementation Plan (2026 Valley Budget Update). If adopted, CARB will submit the 2026 Valley Budget Update to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for inclusion in the California State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Date: March 26, 2026

Time: 9:00 A.M.

In-Person Location:

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

Remote Option:

Zoom

This public meeting may continue at 9:00 a.m. on March 27, 2026. Please consult the public agenda, which will be posted ten days before the March 26, 2026, 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

Section 176(c) of the federal Clean Air Act (Act) establishes transportation conformity requirements that are intended to ensure that transportation activities do not interfere with air quality progress in meeting the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). Transportation conformity requirements link and coordinate governmental transportation and air quality planning processes through motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) that are established in attainment plans and other SIP revisions under the Act. Once MVEBs are established in the SIP, subsequent transportation plans and programs produced by transportation planning

agencies must demonstrate that the emissions from the proposed transportation plan, program, or project do not exceed those MVEBs and thus “conform” to the SIP.

For the 75 parts per billion 8-hour ozone NAAQS (75 ppb ozone NAAQS) in the San Joaquin Valley, CARB submitted an attainment plan to U.S. EPA in 2017 that included MVEBs developed using the California on-road mobile source model, Emissions Factor (EMFAC) 2014. Each EMFAC model utilizes the latest emissions factors available at the time, and the MVEBs include the latest transportation activity data provided by the metropolitan planning organizations with jurisdiction over the area. In 2018, CARB updated the MVEBs for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS as needed to align with EMFAC2017. U.S. EPA has since approved the San Joaquin Valley plan for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS and associated MVEBs into the California SIP.

In 2021, California released a new version of the on-road mobile source model, EMFAC2021, which used updated data and methodologies, including new and revised regulations to reflect CARB’s latest understanding of statewide and regional vehicle emissions. Effective November 15, 2022, U.S. EPA approved EMFAC2021 for use in SIP development and transportation conformity analyses. The U.S. EPA approval set a November 15, 2024, date after which EMFAC2021 must be used to satisfy the requirement that transportation plans conform to the SIP.

Due to updated data and methodologies, EMFAC2021 estimates higher overall emissions from the on-road vehicle population in many areas of the State compared to prior versions of the model. As such, in using EMFAC2021, the metropolitan planning organizations in the San Joaquin Valley may not be able to demonstrate conformity against approved MVEBs established in the approved plan for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS. To align the MVEBs in the SIP for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS with EMFAC2021, in March of 2025, CARB adopted revised MVEBs for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS in the San Joaquin Valley.

Following the March 2025 update to the MVEBs, the federal government took actions affecting the emissions reductions accounted for in the MVEBs. In June of 2025, the current federal administration adopted illegal congressional resolutions that purported to revoke California’s waivers originally granted by U.S. EPA under section 209 of the Clean Air Act, including those needed to enforce regulations accounted for in EMFAC2021, the Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) Regulation and the Heavy-Duty Vehicle Omnibus (Omnibus) Regulation.

In response to these recent federal actions and to ensure that transportation plans and programs produced by transportation planning agencies can conform to the SIP, CARB is proposing to further update the MVEBs for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS in the San Joaquin Valley. The proposed updates to the MVEBs include the removal of the benefits of the ACT and Omnibus regulations.

U.S. EPA guidance concerning updates to transportation models for conformity requires that when existing MVEBs are updated, the revised MVEBs must be shown to not interfere with the reasonable further progress and attainment demonstrations required under the Clean Air Act. Therefore, in addition to updating the MVEBs in the plan to adjust for federal actions, the 2026 Valley Budget Update includes a demonstration that the updated MVEBs do not interfere with the reasonable further progress or the attainment demonstrations in the approved San Joaquin Valley plan for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS.

Proposed Action

CARB staff recommends that the Board adopt the 2026 Valley Budget Update, including the updated MVEBs for the San Joaquin Valley for the 75 ppb ozone NAAQS. CARB staff also recommends the Board direct staff to submit the 2026 Valley Budget Update to the U.S. EPA as a revision to the California SIP.

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/san-joaquin-valley> by February 13, 2026. Please contact, Lindsay Garcia, Regulations Coordinator, at lindsay.garcia@arb.ca.gov or (916) 546-2286 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 March 16, 2026**, and addressed to the following:

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

Electronic submittal: <http://ww2.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 7920.000 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, Chief, Air Quality Planning Branch, at (279) 208-7225.

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 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.

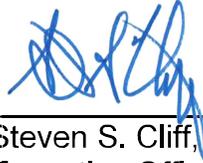
Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;

- Documentos disponibles en un formato alterno 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 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



Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D.
Executive Officer

Date: February 11, 2026

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://ww2.arb.ca.gov) (ww2.arb.ca.gov).