

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER THE PM2.5 STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR IMPERIAL COUNTY

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider approval of the *PM2.5 State Implementation Plan for Imperial County* (PM2.5 Plan). If adopted, CARB will submit the PM2.5 Plan to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP).

DATE: May 25, 2018

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Sacramento County Administration Building
700 H Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., May 25, 2018. Please consult the agenda for the hearing, which will be available at least ten days before May 25, 2018, to determine when this item will be considered.

Background

The federal Clean Air Act (Act) establishes planning requirements for those areas that exceed the health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These nonattainment areas must develop and implement a SIP that demonstrates how they will attain the NAAQS by a specified date. For international border areas, the Act also contains a specific provision that considers the impact of cross-border transport of pollutants. Exceedances that occur due to international transport may cause violations of the standard; however, the Act does not require states to develop an attainment strategy addressing pollution that originates from sources beyond the borders of the United States.

In 2012, the U.S. EPA strengthened the annual PM2.5 NAAQS from 15 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) to $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. U.S. EPA designated a portion of Imperial County as nonattainment for the $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ annual PM2.5 standard in 2015 and classified the area as moderate. The Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (District) developed the PM2.5 Plan to address the moderate area requirements for this NAAQS.

The City of Calexico in Imperial County is adjacent to metropolitan Mexicali, Mexico, with the relevant air quality monitor located within one mile of the border. On a daily basis, Calexico is impacted by emissions from Mexicali and experiences periods over the $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ annual standard throughout the year. However, the highest PM2.5 concentrations occur in the winter during stagnant weather conditions. These stagnant

conditions impede dispersion and facilitate the build-up of PM_{2.5} concentrations in the Calexico/Mexicali border area. The PM_{2.5} Plan includes documentation of the impact that Calexico experiences year round by the international transport of pollutants from Mexicali. CARB's analysis concludes that absent the contribution of emissions from Mexicali, Imperial County would attain the 12 µg/m³ annual PM_{2.5} standard. Additionally, to reduce the air quality impact in Calexico during the stagnant winter conditions, the District plans to adopt a new rule that reduces wood smoke during this time.

The Imperial PM_{2.5} Plan meets the Act requirements for a moderate PM_{2.5} nonattainment area and demonstrates attainment of the 12 µg/m³ annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS in 2021, but for emissions from Mexicali. The Imperial PM_{2.5} Plan SIP elements consist of the following: 1) an emission inventory; 2) international transport technical demonstration; 3) air quality modeling; 4) transportation conformity budgets; 5) analysis of Reasonably Available Control Measures and Technologies (RACM/RACT); 6) Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) and Quantitative Milestones; and 7) RFP Contingency Measures.

CARB staff reviewed the Imperial PM_{2.5} Plan and conclude that it meets applicable requirements for a moderate PM_{2.5} nonattainment area and demonstrates that the Imperial County nonattainment area will attain the PM_{2.5} NAAQS in 2021 absent emissions from Mexico.

Proposed Action

CARB staff recommends that the Board approve the SIP and direct CARB staff to submit it to U.S. EPA as a revision to the California SIP.

CARB staff will offer a presentation on their written report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from CARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814, on April 27, 2018. The report may also be obtained from CARB's website at: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/sip/planarea/imperial/imperialsip.htm>.

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at 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 physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 5:00 p.m., May 21, 2018**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, 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.

CARB requests that written statements on this item be filed at least ten days prior to the meeting so that CARB staff and Board members have additional time to consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Webster Tasat, Manager, Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section at (916) 323-4950, or Elizabeth Melgoza, Air Pollution Specialist, Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section at (916) 322-6161.

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 meeting;
- 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 Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than ten business days before the scheduled Board meeting.

TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

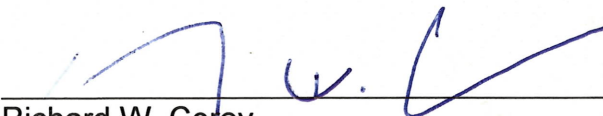
Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- 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 (916) 322-5594 o envíe un fax a (916) 322-3928 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de diez 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

Date: April 27, 2018


Richard W. Corey

Executive Officer

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 our website at www.arb.ca.gov.