

Follow-Up & Recommendations: Community Air Protection Consultation Group Virtual Study Session #1

To: California Air Resources Board (CARB) Staff & Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) Team

From: Jasmine Beltran, Member, CARB AB 617 Consultation Group & SELA CSC

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Subject: Follow-Up & Recommendations: Community Air Protection Consultation Group Virtual Study Session #1

Dear CARB and OEHHA Staff,

Thank you for hosting Virtual Study Session #1 on the **Draft Roadmap to Reduce Air Toxics** and the **ECHO-AIR Tool**. As state-level toxic reduction strategies and analytical frameworks take shape, it is critical that these tools translate into immediate, measurable protections for heavily burdened industrial and freight corridors in communities like Southeast Los Angeles (SELA).

To support the goals of the draft Roadmap and OEHHA's health risk tracking, I am submitting three key frameworks and solutions developed through our ground-level work in Southeast Los Angeles. These concrete models can be integrated into statewide program guidelines ahead of the September 16, 2026 public comment deadline:

1. Automated Inspection Triggers Linked to Community Sensor Networks

- **The Gap:** Traditional compliance relies on scheduled inspections or delayed complaint processing, leaving communities vulnerable to uncaptured emission events.
- **The Solution:** Establish formal regulatory mechanisms that connect validated community-led sensor networks and fenceline monitoring directly to enforcement units. When local sensor networks log verified, continuous emission spikes, it should automatically generate a high-priority inspection trigger for CARB and local air district compliance teams.

2. Integration of Analytics Prediction Tools into ECHO-AIR

- **The Gap:** Regional risk modeling often relies on smoothed, macro-level averages that mask hyper-local toxic spikes near industrial sites and transportation corridors.
- **The Solution:** OEHHA's ECHO-AIR tool should incorporate open-data APIs and predictive analytics models capable of ingesting ground-level, real-time data—including mobile sensing, fenceline monitoring, and localized environmental indicators. Ground-truthing ECHO-AIR with hyper-local, community-driven datasets ensures the platform reflects actual cumulative exposure and lived realities.

3. Institutionalizing the Enforcement & Data Transparency Ad Hoc Working Group

- **The Gap:** Community air monitoring data is frequently collected without a direct, transparent pipeline to enforcement outcomes or public reporting.
- **The Solution:** Formally establish an **Enforcement & Data Transparency Ad Hoc Working Group** within the statewide AB 617 framework. This working group will oversee the creation of public-facing tracking dashboards, monitor inspection responses resulting from sensor alerts, and maintain agency accountability across state and district jurisdictions.

Key Questions for Staff Consideration

1. **ATCM Prioritization:** What quantitative criteria will CARB use within the draft Roadmap to fast-track update timelines for Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCMs) affecting industrial corridors adjacent to residential areas within the first 1–3 years?
2. **ECHO-AIR Integration:** How will OEHHA structure ECHO-AIR's data architecture to allow open-data ingestion from community-led monitoring platforms and local air district networks?
3. **Cycle 6 Air Grants:** How will Cycle 6 Request for Applications (RFA) guidelines streamline administrative requirements to ensure frontline community organizations receive direct technical support to maintain these monitoring and data tools?

I look forward to continuing our collaborative work to strengthen the draft Roadmap, refine the ECHO-AIR platform, and build enforcement systems that deliver clean air to frontline environmental justice communities.

Sincerely,

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