

ATTACHMENT A

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AQMD Air Quality-Related Energy Policy

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) approving the AQMD Air Quality-Related Energy Policy.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has directed staff to develop an Energy Policy to integrate criteria and toxic air contaminants, greenhouse gases, and energy issues to ensure clean air and a healthy economy;

WHEREAS, the Energy Policy will complement policies, guiding principles, and initiatives previously adopted by the Governing Board (i.e., Environmental Justice Guiding Principles and Initiatives, Climate Change Policy);

WHEREAS, the total end use energy consumption in 2008 within the Basin was 2.2 Quadrillion BTU (or 2.2 billion million BTU), with 82 percent from fossil fuels and 18 percent from electricity;

WHEREAS, of the total 2008 fossil fuel use, gasoline accounts for 46 percent (6.7 billion gallons), natural gas accounts for 26 percent (460,000 MMscf), diesel accounts for 13 percent (1.7 billion gallons), and other fuels (jet fuel, residual fuel, propane) account for 15 percent (2 billion gallons);

WHEREAS, the total electricity consumption within the Basin was 113,200 GWh (or 113,200 million kWh) in 2008, of which 30 percent was generated in Basin;

WHEREAS, the electricity generation capacity within the Basin currently online is an estimated 16,600 MW with over 85 percent from fossil fuels and less than 2 percent from renewable energy (i.e., solar, wind, biogas);

WHEREAS, the total NOx emissions contribution from all energy types in the Basin during 2008 was 860 tons per day with 54 percent from diesel, 25 percent from gasoline, 9 percent from natural gas, 9 percent from residual fuel oil, 3 percent from other fossil fuels, and 0.3 percent from electricity production*;

*Based on 2007 AQMP projections. Recent California Air Resources Board rulemaking for on-road heavy duty diesel vehicles and off-road equipment showed about 140 tons per day lower NOx emissions from these source categories. The 2008 emissions inventory will be updated as part of the 2012 AQMP.

1 **WHEREAS**, the total direct CO₂ emissions contribution from all energy types in the
2 Basin in 2008 was 135 million metric tons per year with 40 percent from gasoline, 22.5 percent
3 from natural gas, 13 percent from in-Basin electricity generation, 11.5 percent from diesel, and
4 13 percent from other fossil fuels (jet fuel, residual fuel, propane);

5 **WHEREAS**, the toxicity weighted emissions contribution from all energy types in the
6 Basin in 2008 was 92 percent from diesel (without particulate traps and will be 88 percent once
7 diesel particulate traps are in place for trucks and ships, includes fuel oil), 6 percent from
8 gasoline, 1 percent each from electricity (burning natural gas) and jet fuel, 0.2 percent from
9 natural gas and 0.1 percent from other fossil fuels;

10 **WHEREAS**, Executive Order S-3-05 was signed in 2005 and set statewide targets for
11 reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020, and to 80 percent below
12 1990 emission levels by the year 2050;

13 **WHEREAS**, California passed SBX1-2 in April 2011 that will require utilities in
14 California to increase the supply of electricity produced from renewable energy sources to 33
15 percent by the year 2020;

16 **WHEREAS**, total regional annual expenditure on fossil fuels within the Basin in 2008 is
17 \$45 billion, of which petroleum (transportation fuels) accounts for 81 percent of this expenditure;

18 **WHEREAS**, total regional costs due to poor air quality were estimated to be \$22 billion
19 per year based upon averaged air quality data from years 2005 to 2007;

20 **WHEREAS**, the health impacts from adverse air quality result in about 5,000 premature
21 deaths, and hundreds of thousands of cases of asthma and other lower respiratory illnesses,
22 hospitalizations, school absences, acute bronchitis, and lost workdays each year in this region;

23 **WHEREAS**, 67 percent and 75 percent NO_x reductions beyond currently adopted
24 regulations (as of 2010) are needed to meet the 1997 and 2008 federal ozone standards,
25 respectively;

26 **WHEREAS**, this Policy is intended to be consistent with State agency energy policies
27 and planning principles included in the CEC's Integrated Energy and Planning Report (IEPR),
28 and California's Clean Energy Future prepared jointly by the Governor's office, CARB,

1 CalEPA, CEC, CPUC, and California ISO;

2 **WHEREAS**, it is the Governing Board’s long standing policy to be fuel and technology
3 neutral, and that any form of energy will be allowed in meeting the specified emission limits or
4 performance standards adopted by the Board;

5 **WHEREAS**, this policy does not authorize the AQMD to deny a permit that meets all
6 applicable existing legal requirements at the time the permit is issued; and

7 **WHEREAS**, this policy does not foreclose the Governing Board from independently
8 determining whether and in what form to adopt any given control measure or rule, giving
9 appropriate consideration to all relevant factors including technological and economical
10 feasibility.

11
12 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Governing Board directs staff to
13 proceed with the following in future clean air program development, in a manner that promotes
14 reliable, safe, cost effective and clean energy for all energy consumers in the Basin:

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16 **Policy 1** – Promote zero and near-zero emission technologies through ultra clean energy
17 strategies, to meet air quality, energy security, and climate change objectives;

18 **Intent Statement:** Energy usage in Southern California is heavily dependent
19 upon traditional fossil fuels and is the source of the majority of criteria, toxic, and
20 GHGs emissions in the Basin. In order for South Coast AQMD to achieve
21 federally mandated clean air standards for ozone, significant nitrogen oxide
22 (NOx) emission reductions will be necessary. The vast majority of NOx
23 emissions in the Basin are a direct result of energy use. The AQMD’s mission
24 includes protecting Southern California residents from exposure to air toxic
25 emissions. Diesel fuel use in the transportation goods movement sector is the
26 primary contributor to these emissions. AQMD also advocates for concurrent
27 benefits of GHG strategies that reduce criteria pollutant and air toxic emissions
28 while recognizing that climate change can in itself exacerbate ozone and PM
pollution. The direct connections between AQMD’s core objectives and broader
energy issues call for a clear and consistent AQMD policy that addresses these
relationships in a coordinated manner. This policy will ensure that AQMD
actions on air quality are considered in light of associated energy issues, while

1 also providing decision-makers on energy policy a clear message regarding the
2 impacts of their actions on air quality. Furthermore, a heavy reliance on
3 traditional fossil fuels causes susceptibility to increasingly volatile market prices
4 and does not keep dollars spent on energy localized. Promoting the use of clean
5 energy through zero and near-zero technologies, including efficiency/conservation
measures, will help this region address air quality, energy security, and climate
change in an integrated and holistic manner.

6 **Policy 2** – Promote zero and near-zero emission technologies in both stationary and mobile
7 applications to the extent feasible;

8
9 **Intent Statement:** Based on the 2007 AQMP/SIP, Southern California would
10 need another 67% to 75% of NOx reductions beyond all existing regulatory
11 actions to meet the 1997 and 2007 8-hour ozone standards by federal deadlines.
12 Therefore, it is essential that many combustion related processes need to employ
13 zero or near-zero emission technologies to meet the health-based air quality
14 standards. In many instances, these technologies will also reduce toxic exposure
15 and GHG emissions. It is expected that most of the needed technologies will be
16 for mobile sources which account for 90% of total NOx emissions. However
17 stationary sources are included in this policy, since there is a state law for a non-
18 attainment area to implement all feasible measures. To the extent technically
19 feasible and cost-effective measures are available for stationary source
20 applications, they will be considered as part of the clean air strategy. Some
21 examples of zero or near-zero technologies available for implementation over the
22 next 10 to 20 years include battery electric vehicles, electric rail, plug-in hybrid
23 vehicles, fuel cell and hydrogen powered vehicles, electric motors, and solar
24 power generation.

25 **Policy 3** – Promote diversification of electricity generation technologies to provide reliable,
26 feasible, affordable, sustainable, and zero or near-zero emission electricity supply for
27 the Basin in partnership with local power producers;

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29 **Intent Statement:** AQMD recognizes that the increased utilization of zero and
30 near-zero technologies will likely lead to increased electricity demand and thus
31 the need for more electricity generation. AQMD intends to promote a broad
32 portfolio of generating technologies with an emphasis on sustainable, efficient
33 and clean production while sensitive to electricity supply and reliability issues as
34 well as its affordability by all ratepayers.

1 **Policy 4** – Promote demand side management programs to manage energy demand growth. Such
2 programs include, but are not limited to, energy conservation, energy efficiency and
3 load-shifting measures;

4 **Intent Statement:** Demand side management programs help reduce the need for
5 additional generation and related infrastructure, generally resulting in cost
6 savings, and may help offset the increased electricity demand addressed in Policy
7 3. Energy efficiency and conservation programs in this policy include all energy
8 types such as natural gas for stationary sources and transportation fuels.
9 Lowering energy consumption with such programs will also lead to co-benefits in
10 air quality and climate change. Furthermore, load-shifting measures and energy
11 storage can help better utilize existing capacity reducing the need for additional
12 peaker plants.

13 **Policy 5** – Promote in-Basin distributed electricity generation, with emphasis on distributed
14 renewable electricity generation, to reduce reliance on energy imports or central
15 power plants, and to minimize the air quality, climate and cross-media environmental
16 impacts of traditional power generation;

17 **Intent Statement:** Renewable electricity generation provides a sustainable
18 source of energy that is zero or near-zero emission and can help mitigate
19 economic effects from high fossil fuel costs. Power generation within the Basin
20 provides greater transmission efficiency through better matching of localized
21 demand with production and less transmission line losses. With this policy,
22 AQMD is not setting an in-Basin renewable energy performance standard and not
23 excluding out-of-Basin renewable generation to meet in-Basin demand. The
24 policy simply promotes clean and efficient electrical production, preferably
25 locally, to help address increasing electricity demand.

26 **Policy 6** – Promote electricity storage technology to improve the supply reliability, availability,
27 and increased generation technology choices;

28 **Intent Statement:** The development of advanced electricity storage technology
can minimize the temporal variability impacts associated with renewable energy
production (i.e., wind or solar). It makes renewable energy sources more reliable
and more available under various load demand. Increased storage can also

1 provide power on-demand under peak load conditions helping to minimize the
2 need for new peaker plants while utilizing off peak hours and rates for storage.

3 **Policy 7** – Require any new/repowered in-Basin fossil-fueled generation power plant to
4 incorporate Best Available Control Technology (BACT) as required by District rules,
5 considering energy efficiency for the application. These power plants shall also
6 comply with any requirements adopted by the California Air Resources Board
7 (CARB), California Energy Commission (CEC), Public Utilities Commission (PUC),
8 California Independent System Operator (ISO), or the governing board of a publicly-
9 owned electric utility, as well as state law under the California Environmental Quality
10 Act (CEQA);

11 **Intent Statement:** The AQMD recognizes that fossil fuel electricity generation
12 will still be needed in the Basin to complement projected increased use of
13 renewable energy sources. In accommodating that need, this policy ensures that
14 all fossil-fueled plants will meet the existing BACT requirements and AQMD’s
15 BACT determination will also take into consideration generating efficiency in
16 setting the emission limits. This policy integrates criteria pollutant BACT with
17 GHG BACT as required in the federal Tailoring Rule. This policy also explicitly
18 recognizes existing ongoing efforts at the state level to assess the electricity
19 generation capacity needs for this region and CPUC’s approval of electricity
20 procurement contracts. Therefore, this policy is not intended for AQMD to
21 develop a needs determination for new power plant installations or establish new
22 BACT determination procedures.

23 **Policy 8** – Advocate, within the existing CEQA review process, maximum cost effective
24 mitigation in the communities affected by emission increases resulting from the siting
25 of new or repowered power plants;

26 **Intent Statement:** This policy is intended to address localized impacts raised by
27 communities affected by power generation plants. AQMD will work with project
28 proponents in their design phase or during CEQA commenting period to
maximize selection and implementation of mitigation measures, if required,
within the impacted communities. This policy does not create new requirement or
review process beyond the existing CEQA process.

Policy 9 – Educate and incentivize the public and businesses to shift toward the lowest emission

1 technologies, considering emissions of criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants,
2 greenhouse gases, energy efficiency, and the potential to create local jobs; and

3 **Intent Statement:** Educating the public on individual choices for different modes
4 of transportation such as public transit, walking, biking, energy efficient
5 appliances, and energy conservation technologies will provide for cleaner air, less
6 GHG emissions, and potential individual cost-savings in many cases. Consumer
7 participation is essential in driving the market demand for zero and near-zero
8 emitting products. Educating businesses on zero and near zero technologies will
9 reduce emissions and may in some applications lower operating costs. Partnering
10 with other agencies, utilities, and advocacy groups will help leverage funding and
11 outreach efforts, while also providing the means to publicize available incentive
12 programs. AQMD activity will include efforts to create local jobs relative to the
13 implementation of this Policy.

14 **Policy 10** – Incorporate energy efficiency and conservation as an emissions reductions strategy
15 for stationary and mobile sources through AQMD’s planning, rule making,
16 advocacy, and CEQA commenting activities.

17 **Intent Statement:** Given the aforementioned close relationship between energy
18 and air quality, incorporating energy efficiency and conservation into AQMD’s
19 emission reduction activities will recognize the benefits of efficiency and
20 conservation while providing opportunities to reduce overall emissions.

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Board directs staff to proceed with
22 the following:

23 **Action 1** – Advocate for, conduct, and/or support detailed technical studies to identify viable
24 zero and near-zero emission technologies and associated energy delivery and
25 capacity needs to support these technologies as part of the clean air strategy for
26 the Basin;

27 **Discussion:** The purpose of these technical studies is to identify potential zero
28 and near-zero technologies that can be deployed in the next 10 to 20 years to meet
air quality objectives. These studies will be conducted in consultation with
researchers at California universities and colleges, and will be coordinated and
solicit input from state agencies such as CEC, CARB, PUC, and Cal ISO. An

1 opportunity for input will also be provided for interested stakeholders. Intended
2 studies will include analyses of air emissions, technical feasibility, cost-
3 effectiveness analyses, and energy demand and supply associated with those
4 technologies. An understanding of the energy infrastructure, delivery and
5 capacity requirements needed to support these technologies will be critical for
6 their successful introduction. Current examples of such technologies include
7 battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles, but any other technologies in need of
8 further analysis with similar performance would be considered as well.

9 **Action 2** – Conduct appropriate internal and third party socioeconomic studies to identify the
10 societal costs and benefits for the implementation of zero and near-zero emissions
11 strategies, including but not limited to, further electrification and impacts on
12 businesses and jobs;

13 Discussion: Socioeconomic studies will identify the capital investment needed
14 and how the funds can be raised to pay for the infrastructure and delivery systems
15 to support the technologies identify from Action #1. The studies will also include
16 socioeconomic impact analysis including third party review of job impacts,
17 businesses competitiveness, small business impacts, ratepayer impacts, etc.,
18 resulting from transitioning to zero or near-zero technologies. Status reports
19 regarding preparation and results of these studies will be reported to the Board
20 Committees of appropriate jurisdiction. Input will be solicited from various
21 stakeholders, including business groups, energy companies, and transportation
22 agencies.

23 **Action 3** – Where feasible, develop an AQMD action plan to develop and deploy
24 electrification and other zero and near-zero emissions measures for various
25 sectors, including identification of implementation barriers and strategies to
26 overcome such barriers;

27 Discussion: Based on the results of studies related to Actions 1 and 2, the action
28 plan will outline roadmaps, timelines, and key milestones to ensure the timely
commercialization and deployment of these technologies to meet air quality
needs. The action plan will also identify barriers to program implementation and
potential strategies to overcome such barriers.

Action 4 – Conduct studies to identify measures to reduce emissions from the transportation
sector, including incentivizing early introduction of zero and near-zero emission

1 measures and identify potential new transportation funding mechanisms to
2 support substantial penetration of such technologies within the transportation
3 sector;

4 **Discussion:** AQMD will coordinate with transportation stakeholders, including
5 SCAG, transportation commissions, transit districts, rail operators, the ports,
6 railroads and vehicle companies to identify new funding mechanisms, leveraged
7 support, public-private partnership opportunities, and any other appropriate
8 methods to implement strategies for reducing emissions from the transportation
9 sector including incentivizing the implementation of zero and near-zero emission
10 technologies and their necessary infrastructure within the transportation sector,
11 including goods movement. It also includes the identification of new funding
12 mechanisms to increase public transit services and incentivize increased public
13 transit usage.

14 **Action 5** – Further develop and demonstrate low emitting biogas technologies and other
15 clean energy sources from biomass;

16 **Discussion:** The Basin has many sources of biomass that can potentially be
17 converted into useful energy for both transportation and stationary applications.
18 Through various techniques, different sources of biomass can produce
19 biomethane, biogas, electricity, alcohols, and Fischer-Tropsch fuels, to name a
20 few. Many of the combustion processes that utilize these fuels do not currently
21 achieve zero or near-zero emissions; therefore, further technology development is
22 needed in some applications. This effort would ensure the use of biomass will not
23 cause unnecessary trade-offs between GHG benefits and criteria/air toxic
24 emissions.

25 **Action 6** - Coordinate this Energy Policy with California state energy policy as promulgated
26 by the California Energy Commission (CEC), California Public Utilities
27 Commission (PUC), and the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and assure
28 that rules and regulations adopted by the Board are not in conflict with state and
federal laws. Actively participate in CEC, PUC, and CARB proceedings to
promote policies and regulatory actions that further clean air objectives,
consistent with state and federal law;

1 **Discussion:** CEC and PUC are charged with the responsibility to develop
2 statewide energy policies and regulations and CARB has the primary
3 responsibility for implementing AB32 and regulating mobile sources. Their
4 collective decisions often have impacts on local air quality programs such as,
5 energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy policies/standard, etc.
6 AQMD's participation in their decision-making affecting air quality would
7 highlight the linkage between energy and air quality and help ensure air quality
8 needs for the Basin are adequately considered.

9 **Action 7 -** Convene a stakeholder working group (including, but not limited to,
10 representatives from the building industry, local fire departments and building
11 departments, and utilities) to develop and recommend standardized installations of
12 electricity recharging, natural gas refueling, and other zero/near-zero emission
13 refueling equipment for residential and commercial building applications to
14 facilitate greater plug-in electric vehicle (PEV), natural gas vehicle (NGV), fuel
15 cell vehicle, and other zero or near-zero emission vehicle market penetration;

16 **Discussion:** The transportation sector is seeing rapid development of plug in
17 hybrids and battery electric vehicles. A standardized and streamlined recharging
18 infrastructure will reduce the administrative burden, costs, and time needed for
19 such installation; therefore it will help expand market penetration. The same
20 streamlining needs exist for natural gas vehicles and natural gas fueling
21 infrastructure. AQMD intends to facilitate such discussions among stakeholders
22 to develop acceptable specifications and address local permitting issues in a
23 coordinated manner.

24 **Action 8 -** Advocate for electricity rate structures that incentivize off-peak charging for
25 PEVs through the Statewide PEV Collaborative (comprised of CEC, PUC,
26 CARB, local air districts and utilities) while remaining sensitive to potential
27 impacts on rates for existing customers;

28 **Discussion:** Promoting off-peak charging will help decrease the need for
 additional peak electricity generation or adding new capacity, and reducing costs
 for vehicle charging will aid market penetration of these vehicles. This effort is
 also to ensure that the electricity rate structures do not penalize EV and PEV users
 for their off-peak charging.

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Action 9 -Partner with local utilities and local government stakeholders to promote energy conservation and efficiency; and

Discussion: This action is intended to leverage funding, incentive, and outreach efforts with local governments and utilities to promote energy conservation and energy efficiency, especially for existing housing/building stocks and public buildings.

Action 10 - Compile and track Basin-wide energy usage and supply profiles in conjunction with each Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) update.

Discussion: As part of AQMP revisions in the future, AQMD will update information on the primary sources of energy as well as energy demand within the region. This will provide an understanding of the trends in energy consumption and electricity generation profile for this region. The effort will also help to identify data needs and relate energy issues to air quality impacts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs staff to annually report progress in implementing this policy to the Governing Board at a duly noticed public hearing and report progress on AQMD Air-Quality Related Energy Policy implementation to the appropriate Board committees semiannually.