

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Summary of Board Meeting
April 28, 2005

California Air Resources Board
Auditorium
9528 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

MEMBERS PRESENT: Hons. Barbara Riordan, Interim Chairman
Sandra Berg
Doreen D'Adamo
Mark DeSaulnier
Henry Gong, Jr., M.D.
Lydia H. Kennard
Barbara Patrick
Patricia Salas Pineda

AGENDA ITEM#

**05-4-1: Public Hearing to Consider Amendments to the
Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone**

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff proposed revisions to the California ambient air quality standard for ozone, following an evaluation of the existing standard as required by The Children's Environmental Health Protection Act (SB 25, Escutia, Statutes of 1999).

On March 11, 2005, staff released a staff report containing proposed amendments to the State ozone standard. Staff recommended that the Board establish a new eight-hour average standard of 0.070 parts per million (ppm), not to be exceeded, and to retain the existing one-hour standard of 0.090 ppm, not to be exceeded. The recommendations were primarily based on results from controlled human exposure studies, supplemented with epidemiological and animal exposure studies. Staff's review of the scientific literature led to the findings that ozone exposure leads to reduced lung function and increased symptoms of respiratory irritation. Staff

also found that ozone exposure is associated with increased hospital and emergency room usage, increased asthma symptoms, increased mortality, and increased school absences and minor restricted activity days.

Staff recommended that the current ultraviolet photometry method for monitoring ozone continue to be the approved monitoring method, and that all federally approved ultraviolet absorption monitors be adopted as California approved samplers. This action will not result in any changes in current monitoring practice, and will align California's monitoring method with that of U.S. EPA.

At the Board meeting, staff reported on the potential health impacts from exposure to ozone air pollution including reduced lung function, increased respiratory symptoms, premature mortality, increased hospital admissions and emergency room visits, increased asthma symptoms, and increased school absenteeism. These effects are greatest in people who spend time outdoors involved in activities that increase the breathing rate, such as outdoor workers, and children and adults engaged in exercise or active recreation. Staff also discussed that attaining the proposed standards would lead to substantial reductions in death and disease.

The Board heard testimony from eight witnesses. Five speakers expressed support for the proposed standards. Two speakers expressed concern that the findings of the incremental health impacts/benefits of attainment analysis had not been available for public review, even though the analysis was not a basis for the Staff recommendations. The Board directed staff to meet with those concerned to discuss the methodology and findings of the incremental benefits analysis. The Board also directed staff to revise the staff report to include the incremental benefits analysis, and to make the revised text available for a 15-day period in a Notice of Public Availability of Modified Text.

The Board unanimously approved the staff recommendations. Since staff presented changes to their health impacts/benefits assessment analysis at the Board meeting, a publicly noticed 15-day period of additional public comment on the additional analysis will be provided.

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Steve Arita, Western States Petroleum Association
Steve Douglas, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
Charlie Peters, Clean Air Performance Professionals
Sujatha Jahagirdar, Safe Drinking Water Advocate
Trisha Roth, American Academy of Pediatrics
Jesse Marquez, Coalition for a Safe Environment
Diane Bailey, Natural Resources Defense Council
Bonnie Holmes-Gen, American Lung Association

FORMAL BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved Resolution No. 05-31 by a unanimous vote.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: Research Division

STAFF REPORT: YES (Report and Appendices)

05-4-2: PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED "AIR QUALITY AND LAND USE HANDBOOK: A COMMUNITY HEALTH PERSPECTIVE"

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff presented the proposed "Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective" to the Board for its approval.

The Air Quality and Land Use Handbook is an advisory document that provides technical air quality information for local land use and transportation agencies to consider when siting sensitive land uses such as residences, schools, and day care centers. It provides available information on the potential health impacts of siting near sources of air pollution and

makes specific distance recommendations where information is available. It encourages land use agencies and local air districts to work more closely together on siting decisions.

The Handbook also includes methods to help integrate local air quality concerns into the land use planning process, and lists specific tools developed by ARB that can help assess emissions and risk at the neighborhood level.

The Handbook was developed over the past two years through an extensive working partnership with ARB's Environmental Justice Stakeholders Group, community groups, environmental organizations, business organizations, local air districts, and other state and local agencies involved in the land use planning process.

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Mr. Jesse Marquez, Coalition for a Safe Environment
Ms. Cindy Tuck, California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance
Mr. Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Ms. Diane Bailey, Natural Resources Defense Council
Mr. Todd Campbell, City of Burbank, Councilmember
Mr. Mike Webb, California Building Industry Association
Ms. Mitzi Shpak, California Institute of Technology
Ms. Jane Williams, California Communities Against Toxics
Ms. Francisca Jimenez, Environmental Health Coalition
Ms. Randa Baramki, Environmental Health Coalition
Ms. Marie Sanchez, Barrio Logan Resident
Ms. Guadalupe Orozco, Barrio Logan Resident
Ms. Georgette Gomez, Environmental Health Coalition
Ms. Maria Moya, Citizen
Mr. Charles Castaneda, Community of El Monte
Ms. Diane Takvorian, Environmental Health Coalition
Ms. Patti Krebs, Industrial Environmental Association
Mr. Shabaka Heru, Society for Positive Action
Ms. Cynthia Babich, Del Amo Action Committee

Ms. Cynthia Medina, Del Amo Action Committee
Mr. Thomas Addison, Bay Area Air Quality
Management District
Mr. Bahram Fazeli, Citizens for a Better Environment

FORMAL BOARD ACTION:

By unanimous vote, the Board adopted Resolution No. 05-32, approving the Handbook entitled, "Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective."

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: Planning and Technical Support Division

STAFF REPORT: No