

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Summary of Board Meeting
February 21, 2002

California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Coastal Hearing Room, Second Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California

MEMBERS PRESENT: Hons. Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D., Chairman
Joseph C. Calhoun, P.E.
Doreen D'Adamo
Mark J. DeSaulnier
Matthew R. McKinnon
Barbara Riordan

AGENDA ITEM #

02-1-1 Public Meeting to Consider a Health Update

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff of the Research Division provides the Board regular updates on recent research findings on the health effects of air pollution. At this month's meeting, staff presented two recent findings from the Children's Health Study conducted by USC School of Medicine. The Children's Health Study is an ARB sponsored longitudinal study evaluating the health effects of ambient air pollution on children's respiratory health in the Los Angeles area. The first of these findings that received much media attention was based on examining asthma incidence in high and low ozone communities. The investigators divided children into two groups: those participating in three or more team sports and those not participating in team sports. The results indicate that children in high ozone communities who play three or more sports are 3.3 times more likely to develop asthma than children who play no sports. In communities with low ozone concentrations, there was no relationship between the number of team sports played and the development of asthma. Additionally, none of the other pollutants, including nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, or acid vapor, showed a relationship with the development of asthma. While it is known that air pollution can exacerbate existing cases of asthma, this

study is important because it is one of the first to indicate a possible causal role of air pollution in asthma development.

The second finding is based on an analysis of children in the study who moved away from their original study communities. These children experienced changes in air pollution exposures after moving. The goal of this analysis was to determine whether these children's average annual lung function growth rates were related to the changes in their air pollution exposures. The changes were related; the children's lung growth responds to changes in air pollution exposures. This finding also confirms previously reported results from the Children's Health Study that indicated an association between lung function growth and PM10.

The presentation was well received and Board members asked many questions relating to the significance of these results for Californians and the nation. Staff from the Research Division will present results from ARB sponsored research at the beginning of each Board meeting for the rest of the year.

ORAL TESTIMONY: None

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: None

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: None

STAFF REPORT: None

02-1-2 Public Meeting to Consider a Retrospective on California's Air Quality Program

SUMMARY OF BOARD ITEM:

Air Resources Board (ARB) staff made an oral presentation outlining air quality trends over the past 20 years, and provided a historical overview of how ARB actions reduce emissions, improve air quality, and protect public health. The presentation focused particular attention on the success of ARB's mobile source program in stimulating new emission reduction technologies. ARB programs to address emissions from fuels, equipment, and consumer products, as well as ARB actions to reduce risk from air toxics, were also highlighted.

While air quality in California has improved significantly over the past 20 years, more progress is needed to meet State and federal air quality standards, and reduce health risk from air toxics. The staff presentation provided a brief preview of ARB's 2002 Clean Air

Plan: Strategies for a Healthy Future, which will define ARB's vision for achieving clean, healthful air for all Californians.

ORAL TESTIMONY: None

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: None

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: PTSD

STAFF REPORT: None

02-1-3 Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of an Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Reduce Emissions of Toxic Contaminants from Outdoor Residential Waste Burning

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff presented a proposed Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants from outdoor residential waste burning. Residential waste burning is the practice of outdoor burning of residential wastes associated with one- and two-family homes. These household wastes include materials such as garbage, paper, cardboard, cloth, and processed wood.

Typically, 55-gallon metal drums known as burn barrels are used for this burning. Emissions of dioxins, 1,3-butadiene, benzene, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and polychlorinated biphenyls result from this practice, as well as particulate matter.

The originally proposed ATCM prohibits the outdoor burning of residential waste materials other than natural vegetation, as well as the use of burn barrels. However, limited conditional exemptions would be allowed, based upon general criteria including availability of waste service, distance to landfills, and population density.

These exemptions would need to be renewed every five years. The ATCM also requires any residential burning to take place only on permissive burn days, and requires the use of an ignition device approved by the air pollution control officer. The prohibitions would take effect July 1, 2003.

In response to comments received during the public comment period, staff proposed several modifications to the original ATCM: 1) extending the effective date of the prohibitions to January 1, 2004; 2) limiting the materials burned in exemption areas to paper and cardboard only; 3) changing the renewal period for exemptions to ten years; 4) adding a provision for a year of public education by ARB prior to implementation of the ATCM, followed by continued education and outreach by the air districts; and 5) providing specific exemption criteria based upon population

density within census zip code areas. Under the modified proposal, census zip codes with a population density less than or equal to 3.0 people per square mile receive an automatic exemption. In these areas, paper and cardboard may be burned, and burn barrels may be used. For census zip codes with a population density between 3.0 and 10.0 persons per square mile, the local air district may request exemption areas where paper and cardboard could be burned and may request the use of burn barrels if required by the ranking fire official based upon overriding fire safety concerns. No exemptions would be provided in any incorporated places or in census zip codes with a population density greater than 10.0 people per square mile. However, in this highest density tier, local air districts may specify sub-areas of the census zip code to be exemption areas if the population density is less than or equal to 3.0 persons per square mile in the sub-area. Exemption requests must be approved by the governing board of the air district at a public meeting and then confirmed by ARB.

Staff also provided an overview of the potential economic and environmental impacts of the proposed ATCM. Economic impacts included costs for enforcement, public education, and alternative waste disposal. The environmental impacts analysis addressed landfill capacities, illegal dumping, indoor burning, increased vehicle travel due to expanded waste service or self-hauling and fire safety.

The Board heard testimony supporting the proposed ATCM from the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA), several air districts, the American Lung Association, and private citizens. Testimony opposing the proposed ATCM came from county supervisors, the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), a local fire agency, and several air districts.

The Board directed staff to work with CAPCOA, RCRC, air districts, fire agencies, waste agencies and public health organizations on public education efforts. The Board also requested a report on regulation implementation by January 1, 2005.

The Board approved the ATCM with the modifications proposed by staff. The modifications presented by ARB staff at the hearing will be made available for public review and comment for a 15 day period in a Notice of Public Availability of Modified Text. The Executive Officer will consider any comments received during this period prior to adopting the ATCM.

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Patricia Cantrall	Modoc County Supervisor
B.J. Pearson	Plumas County Supervisor
Mark Leary	California Integrated Waste Management Board
Richard Forester	Amador County Supervisor
Barbara Lee	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
Barry Wallerstein	South Coast Air Quality Management District
Bonnie Holmes-Gen	American Lung Association
James Hirschinger	Citizen
Richard Davis	Citizen
Cynthia Cory	California Farm Bureau Federation
Larry Greene	Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
David Conway	Mariposa County Air Pollution Control District
Steven Speckert	Feather River Air Quality Management District
Bob Barkhouse	Feather Air Quality Management District Board, Mayor, Yuba City
Ken Smith	Lassen County Air Pollution Control District
Norm Covell	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Dewayne Matthews	Modoc Fire Chiefs Association
Joe Moreo	Modoc County Air Pollution Control District
Bill Stephans	Siskiyou Air Pollution Control District
Gary Caseri	Tuolumne County Air Pollution Control District
Jim Hemminger	Regional Council of Rural Counties
Bob Reynolds	Lake County Air Quality Management District
Dean Wolbach	Mendocino County Air Quality Management District
Todd Nishikawa	Placer County Air Pollution Control District
Wayne Morgan	North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District
David Jones	Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians

FORMAL BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved Resolution No. 02-1 by a unanimous vote.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: PTSD

STAFF REPORT: Yes (128 pages)

02-1-5 Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of Amendments to the Air Resources Board Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle Retirement (VAVR) Regulations to Minimize Differences Between ARB and BAR VAVR Regulations and Allow Parts Recycling and Resale of Non-Emission-Related and Non-Drive Train Parts

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff proposed two amendments to the ARB VAVR regulations. Specifically, with respect to vehicle eligibility, staff recommended that the ARB VAVR regulations be amended to match the Bureau of Automotive Repair regulations with only two exceptions; i.e., maintain a requirement to drive in reverse and require continuous registration for 120 days prior to retirement. In addition, staff proposed amendments to allow parts recovery for non-emission-related and non-drive train parts.

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Senator Maurice Johannessen	California State Senate, District 4
Jack Wilte	Association of California Car Clubs
Lenard Trimlett	www.smogrfg.com
Robert Lucas	Lucas Associates for California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB)
Glenn G. Boire	Association of California Car Clubs
Frank Bohannan	Specialty Equipment Marketing Association (SEMA)
Roger Andriesse	Shelby American Automobile Club

FORMAL BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved Resolution No. 02-4 with the stipulation that staff performs additional public outreach to explore alternatives to the 7-day waiting period currently specified in ARB VAVR regulations. Finally, the Board requested that the Executive Office report back to the Board on the results of the workshop and the final language of the amended regulations.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: EO

STAFF REPORT: Yes (53 pages)

02-1-6 Public Meeting to Consider Research Proposals

The Board approved Resolution Nos. 02-5 and 02-6 by a unanimous vote.

02-1-7 Public Meeting to Consider Reallocating Rice Straw Demonstration Project Funds

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

On May 25, 2000, the Board awarded \$1.2 million to five Rice Fund projects for Fiscal Year 1999-2000. One of the projects withdrew from the Rice Fund making \$100,000 available for other ARB approved projects. Staff recommended reallocating \$100,000 of Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Rice Fund monies to Broken Box Ranch.

Broken Box Ranch received a \$298,000 grant award in May 2000 to develop a commercial-scale rice straw compost production plant. The plant has been established and is producing compost. The grant augmentation will allow Broken Box to immediately hire a marketing and product development specialist, develop and disseminate marketing materials, and educate ranchers in the use of rice straw compost. It will also allow them to generate marketing data demonstrating crop yields associated with rice straw compost. This money will help them achieve and surpass their original straw usage goals of 15,000 tons of compost by June 2002.

ORAL TESTIMONY: None

FORMAL BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved Resolution No. 02-7 with a unanimous vote.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: PTSD

STAFF REPORT: None