

State of California
Air Resources Board

BOARD ITEM SUMMARY

ITEM # 20-4-2: Informational Update on the Implementation of the 2017 Scoping Plan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is an informational update; no action is required.

DISCUSSION:

In December 2017, the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) adopted California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan (Resolution 17-46). This item is the Board-requested "annual report on the environmental performance and implementation of the Scoping Plan and the progress toward achieving the State's greenhouse gas (GHG) targets."

SUMMARY AND IMPACTS:

The 2017 Scoping Plan Update defines a technologically feasible and cost-effective path to achieve the State's 2030 GHG emissions reduction target of at least 40 percent below 1990 levels. California GHG emissions were below 1990 levels in 2016, four years earlier than mandated by Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Nunez, ch. 488, stats. 2006).

In 2019, CARB continued to make progress implementing the measures identified in the Scoping Plan, many of which were created or bolstered by Board resolutions passed in the previous year. Staff will present highlights from 2019, which include summaries of program compliance, funding of dairy biogas projects in California, increased penetration of renewable energy on California's grid, and more. Achieving emissions reductions from the transportation sector remains a key focus of the Board; attainment of both climate and air quality goals is not possible without substantial reductions in transportation emissions as a whole. Staff is approaching this challenge with a more holistic perspective that takes into account variables such as housing development strategies, transit availability, vehicle efficiency, zero-emission vehicle adoption, equity considerations and more.

Since adoption of the 2017 Scoping Plan Update, the concept of framing climate mitigation in the context of carbon neutrality has gained attention. In response to Board direction to "continue to evaluate and explore opportunities to achieve significant cuts in greenhouse gas emissions from all sources,"¹ staff in 2019 began an extensive public workshop/webinar process to inform the path to statewide carbon neutrality by mid-century. This effort is occurring in parallel with multi-agency efforts

¹ Board Resolution 17-46, December, 2017. <https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/board/res/2017/res17-46.pdf>

to define the path to zero-carbon retail sales in electricity by 2045 per Senate Bill (SB) 100, (De Leon, ch. 312, stats. 2018) and to assess the potential for a biomethane procurement policy per SB 1440 (Hueso, ch. 739, stats. 2018). In addition, the California Environmental Protection Agency commissioned two studies focused on reaching carbon neutrality in the transportation sector per AB 74 (Ting, ch. 23, stats. 2019). Staff will also discuss efforts planned this year to support the next update to the Scoping Plan.