

State of California  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution 82-51

September 22, 1982

Agenda Item No.: 82-18-3

WHEREAS, the strikingly beautiful vistas afforded by California's deserts, mountain-valley systems and coastline are a valued treasure of all of its citizens and provide a basis for California tourism;

WHEREAS, visual air quality has other economic and social value, including the protection of existing federal flight test operations and maintenance of optical data collection capability at the instrumented test ranges of the Naval Weapons Center and Edwards Air Force Base;

WHEREAS, parts of California are currently experiencing some of the best visual conditions and other parts of California are currently experiencing some of the most severely degraded visibility conditions encountered in the United States;

WHEREAS, concentrations of visibility reducing particles frequently exceed levels specified in the state's ambient air quality standard for such particles, and as a consequence, the enjoyment of the beauty of California's vistas is frequently and significantly impaired;

WHEREAS, visibility reducing smog consists largely of particulate material within the particle size range between .01 and 2.5 micrometers diameter;

WHEREAS, fine-particle sulfates, nitrates and carbonaceous material have been shown to be especially effective in reducing visibility;


WHEREAS, equipment and methodologies for sampling and analysis of fine particulate material and its constituents are available; and

WHEREAS, currently available data in many areas of the state is insufficient to define adequately the sources and fates of the fine particles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the staff of the Air Resources Board is directed to establish a network of dichotomous samplers and other instruments to measure the concentrations and composition of the visibility reducing particles at representative locations throughout the state and to relate that information to visibility, and further, to work in a coordinated fashion with local air pollution control districts and other governmental agencies in any monitoring program or study conducted by them aimed at developing a program to attain visibility standards or to prevent visibility degradation in areas where exceptional visibility conditions now exist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the staff is directed to work with local air pollution control districts and other interested parties to accumulate this data, to develop any appropriate revisions to state visibility standards, and to develop and implement strategies to attain and maintain such standards.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy of Resolution 82-51, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

  
Harold Holmes, Board Secretary