

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution 90-7

January 11, 1990

Agenda Item No.: 90-1-3

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Section 39606(b) requires the Air Resources Board ("ARB" or "Board") to adopt ambient air quality standards in consideration of the public health, safety and welfare, including but not limited to health, illness, irritation to the senses, aesthetic value, interference with visibility, and effects on the economy;

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Section 39606(b) further provides that standards relating to health effects shall be based upon the recommendation of the State Department of Health Services;

WHEREAS, the Board periodically reviews existing state ambient air quality standards to ensure that they reflect current scientific knowledge;

WHEREAS, the existing statewide ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide (CO), which were established in 1982, of 20 parts per million (ppm) averaged over one hour and 9 ppm averaged over 8 hours are based upon evidence of aggravation of angina and other aspects of cardiovascular disease at carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) levels of 2.0 percent or greater which may be produced by breathing CO at levels slightly higher than these standards (Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 70200);

WHEREAS, recently published scientific research findings from studies which tested the effects of CO on persons with angina reconfirmed that carboxyhemoglobin levels as low as 2.0 percent aggravate angina;

WHEREAS, ARB staff and Department of Health Services ("DHS") staff have reviewed the recent health effects studies and concur in their recommendation to the Board that the current statewide ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide are adequately protective of public health, and regulatory action to revise the standards is not necessary at this time;

WHEREAS, the Board has held a duly noticed public meeting at which it has received and considered evidence, both written and oral, presented to it by staff, other scientists, and members of the public relating to the standards;

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act and Board regulations require that action not be taken as proposed if feasible mitigation measures or alternatives exist which would substantially reduce any significant adverse environmental effects of the proposed action;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the current state carbon monoxide ambient air quality standards are necessary to afford persons with coronary artery disease protection against aggravation of angina pectoris and other aspects of cardiovascular disease and to prevent possible increased risk to persons with peripheral vascular diseases and/or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and fetuses;

WHEREAS, the Board has determined, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and Board regulations, that this regulatory action will have no significant adverse impact on the environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms that the existing state ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide are adequate to protect the public health, and regulatory action is not necessary to revise the standards at this time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Executive Officer to continue to monitor research efforts and regulatory issues relevant to these standards and to inform the Board of any significant new developments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board also directs the Executive Officer to review these standards again in five years, or sooner if new information indicates that the existing standards may no longer be appropriate.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 90-7, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.



Cary Allison, Board Secretary