State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

ACCEPTANCE OF GREENHOUSE GAS QUANTIFICATION DETERMINATION FOR THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SB 375 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

Resolution 15-18

June 25, 2015

Agenda Item No.: 15-5-2

WHEREAS, SB 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008), also known as the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act, aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicle travel through improved transportation and land use planning at the regional scale;

WHEREAS, SB 375 requires each of the State's 18 federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), including the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), or an Alternative Planning Strategy that meets the regional GHG emission reduction targets for passenger vehicles set by the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board);

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board approved GHG reduction targets for 2020 and 2035, expressed as a per capita percentage reduction relative to 2005 levels, for each of the State's MPOs;

WHEREAS, the targets established for the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) region are an eight percent decrease in 2020 and an eight percent decrease in 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS SLOCOG staff engaged the public through community advisory committees, public meetings of the SLOCOG Board to discuss elements of the proposed plan, holding two public hearings on the entire plan and a workshop, throughout 2014;

WHEREAS, in December 2014, SLOCOG published a draft Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for 2014-2035 that stated it would achieve a 9.4 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels in 2020 and a 10.9 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels in 2035;

WHEREAS, the SLOCOG Board of Directors adopted the final RTP/SCS for 2014-2035 at its public meeting held on April 1, 2015;

WHEREAS, as required by California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii), SLOCOG submitted the final RTP/SCS to ARB on May 28, 2015 for review of its GHG quantification determination of 9.4 percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 10.9 percent per capita reduction by 2035;

WHEREAS, section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code calls for ARB to accept or reject an MPO's determination that its submitted strategy would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emission reduction targets established by the Board;

WHEREAS, ARB staff performed a technical evaluation of the SCS using ARB's methodology, published in July 2011 for review of GHG emission calculation procedures for SCS plans;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation found that SLOCOG used technical methodologies that would accurately quantify GHG reductions from the draft SCS;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's technical evaluation of SLOCOG's GHG emissions reduction quantification is contained in Attachment A, "Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments' Sustainable Communities Strategies," dated June 2015; and

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation affirms that SLOCOG's adopted 2014-2035 SCS would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emission reduction targets the Board established for the region for 2020 and 2035.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code, the Board hereby accepts SLOCOG's quantification of the GHG emission reductions from the final SCS adopted by the SLOCOG Board of Directors on April 1, 2015 and the MPO's determination that the SCS would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emission reduction targets the Board established for the region for 2020 and 2035.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff forward this Resolution to the SLOCOG Board of Directors and Executive Director.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 15-18 as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

Tracy Jensen

Tracy Jensen, Clerk of the Board

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Identification of Attachments to the Board Resolution

Attachment A: Technical Evaluation of the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments' Sustainable Communities Strategies, dated June 2015.