

State of California  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

EXECUTIVE ORDER G-12-044

Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)  
Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)  
ARB Acceptance of GHG Quantification Determination

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 ((Chap. 728, Stats. 2008) Senate Bill 375, or SB 375, as amended) requires each California Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), as part of its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) planning process, to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) that meets regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets (targets) set by the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board);

WHEREAS, SB 375 also recognizes ARB's target-setting responsibility as a recurring process, requiring ARB to update the targets every eight years and permitting target updates every four years;

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board set 2020 and 2035 targets for the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) region of 7 percent per capita and 16 percent per capita, respectively;

WHEREAS, in November 2011, SACOG published a draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) for 2035 that stated it would achieve the region's GHG targets with a 9 percent per capita reduction from 2005 by 2020 and a 16 percent per capita reduction from 2005 by 2035;

WHEREAS, ARB staff performed a technical evaluation of the draft MTP/SCS based on ARB's technical methodology for evaluating an SCS (published in July 2011);

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation showed that SACOG used technical methodologies that would accurately quantify GHG reductions from the draft MTP/SCS;

WHEREAS, ARB staff evaluated key performance indicators that support SACOG's determination that the draft MTP/SCS would achieve the region's GHG targets;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation showed that SACOG's draft MTP/SCS, if implemented, would meet the GHG targets that the Board established for the region for 2020 and 2035;

WHEREAS, ARB staff presented an informational item on SACOG's draft MTP/SCS to the Board at its March 22, 2012, public meeting;

WHEREAS, during the public discussion of this item at its March meeting, the Board identified environmental justice as an important consideration in the regional planning process;

WHEREAS, SACOG's draft MTP/SCS included a detailed analysis of potential environmental justice impacts and a recommendation to monitor the potential effects of plan implementation;

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledged the need for additional metrics to assess the social equity impacts of RTPs/SCSs, and directed ARB staff to pursue development of improved modeling tools and other technical tools that can assist MPOs and local governments to strengthen their analysis of social equity impacts;

WHEREAS, in response to comments from the public, stakeholders, and its Board of Directors, SACOG staff made minor modifications to the draft MTP/SCS which did not change the GHG reduction results;

WHEREAS, these proposed changes were presented at public meetings held by SACOG on March 1 and April 5, 2012;

WHEREAS, the SACOG Board of Directors adopted the final MTP/SCS as revised at its public meeting on April 19, 2012;

WHEREAS, SACOG submitted the final MTP/SCS to ARB on April 19, 2012, with its GHG quantification determination of a nine percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 16 percent per capita reduction by 2035, as required by California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii);

WHEREAS, ARB staff reviewed both the draft MTP/SCS and subsequent modifications contained in the adopted 2012-2035 MTP/SCS;

WHEREAS, the modifications adopted by the SACOG Board of Directors as part of the final MTP/SCS are minor, and do not change the underlying technical land use and

transportation assumptions of the plan, its GHG quantification, or the GHG reduction results demonstrated by the draft MTP/SCS for 2020 and 2035;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's technical review of SACOG's GHG reduction quantification is contained in Attachment A, "Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for SACOG's SCS", dated May 2012;

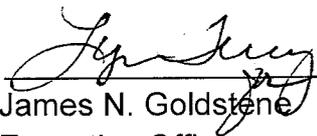
WHEREAS, section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code calls for the ARB to accept or reject the MPO's determination that the strategy submitted would, if implemented, achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by the Board;

WHEREAS, the California Health and Safety Code sections 39515 and 39516 delegate to the Board's Executive Officer the authority to act on behalf of the Board in this manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code, the Executive Officer hereby accepts SACOG's quantification of GHG emission reductions from the final MTP/SCS adopted by the SACOG Board of Directors on April 19, 2012, and the MPO's determination that the SCS would, if implemented, achieve the 2020 and 2035 GHG emission reduction targets established by ARB.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff is directed to forward this executive order to the SACOG Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer.

Executed at Sacramento, California, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2012.

  
James N. Goldstone  
Executive Officer

Attachment A:  
"Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for SACOG's SCS", May 2012