



Air Pollution Control Board

San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

GOVERNING BODY

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

KRISTIN GASPAR
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: October 31, 2018

AP01

TO: Air Pollution Control Board

SUBJECT

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - 2017 AIR TOXICS “HOT SPOTS” PROGRAM REPORT FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The California Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Information and Assessment Act was enacted by the State Legislature in 1987. It requires industrial facilities and other businesses that emit air pollutants to quantify emissions of toxic air contaminants, conduct public health risk assessments for the emissions of concern, notify the affected public if there is a significant health risk and then, in some instances, reduce their emissions to in order to reduce their public health risks to required levels. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) is the implementing agency for the region and is required to publish an annual report summarizing efforts and results of the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program (Program). The District reviews the data submitted by facilities, determines what actions the facilities must undertake, and ensures those facilities fully comply with the requirements of the Program.

The 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego county summarizes the program elements and the results from the latest program year, including stationary and mobile source emission estimates, results of local Health Risk Assessments, the current status of public notifications, and presents conclusions drawn from the Program to date.

Today’s requested action is to approve the public distribution of the 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego county.

RECOMMENDATION

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER

Consider the 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego County and approve the report for public distribution.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

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BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

At its meeting on July 11, 2018, with a quorum present, the Air Pollution Control District Advisory Committee voted unanimously in support of the District’s recommendation to approve the report.

BACKGROUND

The California Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Information and Assessment Act was enacted in 1987 to address public concerns over toxic air contaminant emissions. The act requires local air pollution control districts to evaluate toxic air contaminant emissions from various businesses and determine which emissions present public health concerns. Next, it mandates facilities to develop and implement strategies to reduce the potential risks to public health due to peoples’ exposure to their emissions of toxic air contaminants when the health risks are elevated above specified levels. The Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program (Program) is implemented by the local air pollution control districts using guidance developed by the State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, and the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Under the Program, facilities emitting toxic air contaminants are required to provide the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) with information to update the facilities’ toxic air contaminant emissions inventories at least once every four years. The District then reviews and verifies data submitted by facilities, compiles an inventory of emissions, and publishes an annual program report on the toxic air contaminant emissions. The report includes the results of the Health Risk Assessments (HRA) conducted for those facilities required to conduct public notifications, provides updates on the public notifications made, and discusses which facilities must undertake risk reduction measures.

Facilities that emit toxic air contaminants in amounts potentially posing a public health risk must submit to the District a site-specific Health Risk Assessment (HRA) that examines the possible public health risks posed to their neighbors. The HRA incorporates pollutant dispersion estimates, human exposure assumptions and health effects information. Each HRA is reviewed by the District and OEHHA to ensure that it does not underestimate the risks and follows the most recent State guidelines. Once an HRA has been approved, the Program requires facilities with risks greater than specified levels to provide public notice to all persons in the affected area. In addition, facilities with significant risks are also required to reduce those risks to below the District’s significance threshold within five years. For facilities required to distribute a public notice, the results of the approved HRAs are included in the report. Additionally, the approved HRAs are made available by the District for public review upon request.

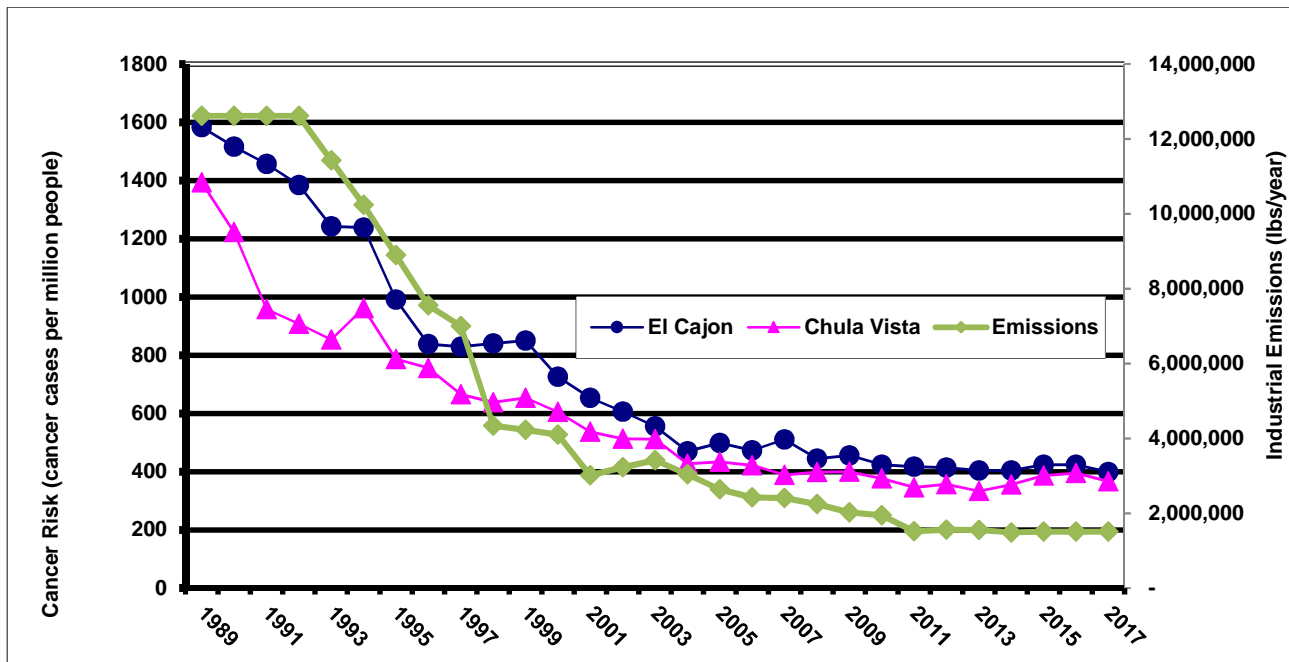
In order to implement a cost effective and minimally burdensome program the District worked with affected facilities to develop various streamlined procedures, including online data reporting capabilities, customized inventory forms and automated record keeping tasks that reduce the

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workload for businesses. The District also provides one-on-one assistance for facilities required to comply with the Program.

RESULTS

Since the inception of the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program in 1989, the emissions of industrial toxic air contaminants have been reduced by a total of 88% (11 million pounds annually) within the county. Although the current emissions reduction trend is not as significant as in the early years of the Program, it is worth highlighting that from 2009 to the present the industrial toxic air contaminant emissions have been reduced in the county by approximately 25%, or 500,000 pounds annually. The emissions of toxic air contaminants shown in the graph have leveled out because the affected facilities have made the legally required emissions reductions of those air pollutants.



Most significantly, the human cancer risk levels from these air pollutants have declined from an estimated 1,393 excess cancer cases per million people in Chula Vista in 1989 to the current 366 cases per million people. For El Cajon, the risk has dropped from an estimated 1,548 excess cancer cases per million people in 1989 to the current 399 cancer cases per million people.

The cities of Chula Vista and El Cajon were chosen by CARB because they are considered to be representative locations for the purpose of calculating the public health risk from toxic air contaminants within the county. Chula Vista is used because it is considered to be upwind of most of the county due to the prevailing west winds blowing over it from the ocean and toward the inland areas. El Cajon represents the downwind portion of the county because it is affected by a large part of the region, where the majority of air contaminants come from upwind areas.

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The estimated human cancer risks from the emissions of toxic air contaminants are based on ambient air monitoring data for 25 compounds in those areas.

While tremendous progress has been made in reducing the emissions of toxic air contaminants, OEHHA occasionally refines its risk calculation methodology whereupon it becomes more protective of human health, as it did in 2015. As result of the changes to the OEHHA risk calculation methodology there will likely be additional emissions reductions of toxic air contaminants because affected facilities will have to conduct new health risk assessments and, in some cases, will further reduce their emissions of toxic air contaminants in order to reduce health risks.

On June 6, 2018, the District held a public workshop to discuss the 2017 Report and receive comments about it. All comments were addressed and a report of the results of that workshop is provided as Attachment B.

If approved by the Board, the 2017 Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program Report will be distributed to city councils, local health officials and other stakeholders as required by State law and will be made available on the District’s website.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, CEQA applies only to government actions that will result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The consideration and approval for dissemination of the 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego County is not a project subject to CEQA; CEQA does not apply to this action.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today’s proposed action to approve the 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego County supports the Sustainable Environments Initiative in the County of San Diego’s 2018-2023 Strategic Plan by focusing on sustainability, pollution prevention, and strategic planning. Approval and distribution of the 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego County will help ensure public awareness and participation in the Program.

Respectfully submitted,



SARAH E. AGHASSI
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer



ROBERT J. KARD
Air Pollution Control Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A – 2017 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report for San Diego County
Attachment B – Workshop Report

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED

 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

January 24, 2018 (AP01), Approved the 2016 Air Toxics “Hot Spots Program Report;
January 25, 2017 (AP01), Approved the 2015 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
November 18, 2015 (AP01), Approved the 2014 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
October 29, 2014 (AP01), Approved the 2013 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 4, 2013 (AP01), Approved the 2012 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 5, 2012 (AP02), Approved the 2011 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
September 28, 2011 (AP01), Approved the 2010 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 8, 2010 (AP01), Approved the 2009 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
September 23, 2009 (AP01), Approved the 2008 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 10, 2008 (AP01), Approved the 2007 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 12, 2007 (AP01), Approved the 2006 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 13, 2006 (AP01), Approved the 2005 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 14, 2005 (AP01), Approved the 2004 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 15, 2004 (AP01), Approved the 2003 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 10, 2003 (AP01), Approved the 2002 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
October 9, 2002 (AP01), Approved the 2001 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
October 17, 2001 (AP04), Approved the 2000 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
October 25, 2000 (AP04), Approved the 1999 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
December 15, 1999 (AP01), Approved the 1998 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
September 23, 1998 (AP03), Approved the 1997 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
October 22, 1997 (AP01), Approved the 1996 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Report;
June 12, 1996 (AP02), Adoption of New Rule 1210 Toxic Air Contaminant Public Health Risks – Public Notification and Risk Reduction;
June 12, 1996 (AP01), Adoption of New Rule 1200 Toxic Air Contaminants – New source Review.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

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ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

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