

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
MEETING AGENDA  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020, 9:00 AM**  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NORTH CHAMBER  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

A. REGULAR SESSION: Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Members Greg Cox, Chairman; Jim Desmond, Vice-Chairman; Dianne Jacob; Kristin Gaspar; Nathan Fletcher; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

(Please note, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 on March 17, 2020, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pursuant to the Executive Order, and to maintain the orderly conduct of the meeting, all members of the Air Pollution Control Board attended the meeting via teleconference and participated in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.)

B. Non-Agenda Public Communication: No Speakers

C. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 30, 2020.

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Member Jacob, seconded by Member Gaspar, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 30, 2020.

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Gaspar, Fletcher, Desmond

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

**Agenda Items**

| <b>Agenda #</b> | <b>Subject</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| 1.              | NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:<br>PLAN FOR ATTAINING THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY<br>STANDARDS FOR OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY |

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**1. SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:  
PLAN FOR ATTAINING THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY  
STANDARDS FOR OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) seeks Board approval of its plan to help San Diego County reduce ozone pollution and attain national standards. This plan will help the County meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone pollution. Ozone is a harmful air pollutant that is formed when emissions from motor vehicles, industrial plants, consumer products and other sources interact under the influence of sunlight and heat. Exposure to ozone pollution can cause harmful effects on the respiratory system, including inflammation of the airways, making it harder to breathe. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set NAAQS for ozone pollution at levels deemed protective of public health. The San Diego region currently meets the national standards for five of the six common air pollutants, including particulate matter, carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. However, the region does not yet attain existing national ozone standards. Pursuant to federal law, the District must therefore develop plans to reduce air pollution and demonstrate attainment of these standards by federal deadlines.

The San Diego region is predisposed to ozone pollution formation due to its topography, climate, and location near the Pacific Ocean. Air pollution is emitted from populated coastal areas and blows eastward with the ocean breezes. It then moves across the inland valleys and gets trapped underneath an atmospheric inversion layer (a layer of warm air situated on top of cooler air) against the local foothills and mountains. The pollution then reacts under sunlight and heat to form ozone. Due to these conditions, the District's air monitoring station in Alpine often records higher ozone levels than other areas of the county.

The District has developed and implemented air quality attainment plans over the past 30 years to reduce emissions from a wide spectrum of stationary sources, including large industrial facilities such as power plants and landfills, and smaller commercial establishments such as gas stations and dry cleaners. Additionally, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has implemented the most comprehensive mobile source emissions control program in the nation. As a result, total regionwide ozone-forming emissions have declined by 58% over the past two decades. Maximum ozone concentrations have also decreased by 20% over the same period.

Currently, only two of the seven ozone monitors in San Diego county (Alpine and Kearny Mesa) measure ozone levels that do not meet the health-based national ozone standards. Both of these monitoring stations are found at downwind, inland locations, which as mentioned, are generally prone to higher ozone pollution levels than the coastal areas. However, the entire county is considered "nonattainment" because sources throughout the region contribute to the higher ozone pollution levels detected at those monitoring stations.

Achieving the District's mission of improving air quality for all requires further air quality improvements to attain the national ozone standards throughout the region. The current ozone level validated by the EPA in the inland foothill areas of the region is 0.082 parts per million (ppm). While this level was deemed protective of public health for previous (former) national

ozone standards, it does not satisfy current NAAQS for ozone set by the EPA in 2008 (0.075 ppm) and in 2015 (0.070 ppm). Attainment has not yet occurred primarily due to continued emissions from on-road and off-road vehicles and other mobile sources, limited emission reduction potential from stationary sources, and recent years of higher than normal ambient temperatures that promoted ozone formation. Additionally, San Diego county is geographically sandwiched between the Los Angeles air basin, which has the worst air quality in the nation, and Mexico, which has limited emission controls. Moreover, San Diego has two of the busiest border crossings in the United States (Otay Mesa and San Ysidro) with hundreds of motor vehicles, including heavy-duty trucks, idling and emitting pollutants into the air. All of these factors contribute to the region's ozone levels. Consequently, the region remains an ozone nonattainment area, and is required to develop a plan identifying the emission control measures necessary to reach attainment of current ozone standards by future federal deadlines.

As such, today's proposal includes an ozone attainment plan (Plan) and an accompanying demonstration that the District's rules meet EPA-defined requirements for "Reasonably Available Control Technology" on stationary sources (RACT Demonstration). If approved by the Board, the proposed Plan and RACT Demonstration will be forwarded to CARB for approval and submittal to the EPA. Today's requested actions also include consideration and approval of an environmental analysis (Initial Study and Negative Declaration) of the proposed Plan and RACT Demonstration, which was prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Additionally, today's action includes a recommendation to submit existing District Rule 61.3.1 (Transfer of Gasoline into Stationary Underground Storage Tanks) to the EPA through CARB, in support of the District's proposed RACT Demonstration and to fully satisfy federal requirements. Rule 61.3.1, previously adopted by the Board (March 1, 2006; AP01), is not being proposed for amendment, and its submittal to the EPA will not impose additional requirements or emission controls.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER**

1. Consider the Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the 2020 Plan for Attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County and the 2020 Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County, together with comments received during public review and find, on the basis of the whole record, that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant adverse effect on the environment, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Adopt a resolution titled: "Resolution Approving the 2020 Plan for Attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County and the 2020 Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County, and Certifying the Negative Declaration for the 2020 Plan for Attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County" for transmittal to the EPA through CARB for approval and inclusion in the San Diego county portion of the State Implementation Plan for attaining and maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone.

3. Authorize the submittal of existing Rule 61.3.1 (Transfer of Gasoline into Stationary Underground Storage Tanks) to the EPA through CARB, in support of the 2020 Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

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

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's requested actions would not result in the immediate establishment of new air pollution control requirements on businesses. Rather, measures specified in the proposed plans that are not already adopted and in place, including tighter federal permit requirements for major stationary industrial sources, will be developed by staff into proposed rules or rule amendments at a later date for future consideration by the Board. Specific business impacts will be addressed at that time.

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Member Jacob, seconded by Member Gaspar, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District closed the Hearing and took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Resolution No. 20-166, entitled:  
**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2020 PLAN FOR ATTAINING THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY AND THE 2020 REASONABLY AVAILABLE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY, AND CERTIFYING THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE 2020 PLAN FOR ATTAINING THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY.**

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Gaspar, Fletcher, Desmond

There being no further business, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

ANDREW POTTER  
Air Pollution Control Board  
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

Notes: Santiago

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the San Diego County Air Pollution Control Board on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

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