



Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)

Citizens Advisory Committee
October 7, 2008

Background

- Climate protection mandates will be demanding
- AB 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act) imposes no direct mandates on local air districts
- CEQA challenges/litigation relating to GHGs
- Local land-use agencies and businesses have sought expert assistance from local air districts
- District can play a supportive role and take leadership in facilitating compliance
- Governing Board approved CCAP in August 2008



AB 32 - Summary

- Reduce greenhouse gases (GHGs) to 1990 levels by 2020 (25% reduction)
- Reduce greenhouse gases to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 (executive order)
- Mandatory GHG emissions reporting
- Early Action Measures (GHG reductions) to be implemented before 2010
- “Scoping Plan” to achieve the 2020 reductions (final draft just released, ARB vote in November)



Climate Change Action Plan Goals

- Assist local land-use agencies with GHG CEQA issues
- Assist Valley businesses in complying with the mandates of AB32
- Ensure that climate protection measures do not cause emissions adversely affecting public health or environmental justice



Climate Change Action Plan Specific Actions

- Authorizes the APCO to begin the public process to formulate recommendations for Board's consideration for the following:
 - CEQA guidelines for local land-use agencies
 - San Joaquin Valley Carbon Exchange Bank
- Authorizes the APCO to craft voluntary GHG mitigation agreements for Board consideration



Climate Change Action Plan

Specific Actions (cont'd)

- Support win-win measures that reduce both GHGs and criteria pollutants
- Oppose measures that result in significant increase in toxic or criteria pollutant emissions
 - Top priorities - public health and environmental justice



CEQA Issues

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires addressing environmental impacts
- Legal challenges have delayed CEQA projects
- Technical needs:
 - Quantify GHG emissions
 - Identify significant climate change impacts
 - Identify feasible mitigation measures
 - Administer/implement voluntary mitigation measures



CEQA guidelines for GHGs

- Public process including input from local agencies
- Options to be considered:
 - GHG significance threshold(s)
 - Tiered classification of project's impact
 - Approaches to assure varying degrees of feasible mitigation
 - Inclusion of GHG mitigation measures in General Plans with minimal project-specific review when project is consistent with the Plan
 - Others
- Bring recommendations to Board in Summer of 2009



SJV Carbon Exchange Bank

- Public process to develop rules for administering a bank
- Voluntary and early reductions created in SJV
- Reductions must be quantifiable, surplus, permanent, and enforceable
- Model after the District's existing ERC bank
- Develop and follow internationally recognized protocols
- Work closely with ARB and California Climate Action Registry to ensure compatibility
- Banked credits will be available for multiple uses
- Recommendations to Board in Summer of 2009



Integrated Emissions Reporting

- Designed to assist businesses in complying with ARB's mandatory reporting requirements
- Designed to minimize duplicative reporting to ARB and the District
- Enhancements to existing criteria pollutant emissions inventory program
- Voluntary, web-based
- Test in 2009, operational in 2010



Voluntary Mitigation Agreements

- Model after past agreements for criteria pollutants
- Each contract subject to Board approval
- Mitigate GHG increases from new projects
- Assist land-use agencies and developers
- Funding provided by developers
- Consider pooling resources when needed
- Fund using District's successful incentive program
- Fund projects providing public health co-benefits



Extensive Public Process for Developing CCAP Components

- First scoping meeting tentatively scheduled for Nov. 19, 2008
- Followed by workgroup meetings - workgroups will provide recommendations to APCO
- Develop guidance and tools for Land Use/Carbon credit banking system
- Public workshops for proposed guidance documents, enhancements to existing programs, necessary regulations, and other tools
- Proposals to Governing Board by Summer 2009



Options for CAC involvement

- CAC may request that staff provide updates as draft proposals are developed
- CAC representatives may participate directly in workgroups throughout process
- CAC may establish a subcommittee to review and provide recommendations on proposals
- CAC would ultimately develop a recommendation to Governing Board on proposals



Contact Information

- Meetings will be noticed on web, in newspapers, and to District subscribers
- Dave Warner, Director of Permit Services, will be Project/Workgroup Lead:
dave.warner@valleyair.org
- Sign up for notifications of CCAP meetings at: <http://www.valleyair.org/lists/list.htm>

