

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 2, 2024

AGENDA NO. 23

REPORT: Technology Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Technology Committee held a hybrid meeting on Friday, January 24, 2024. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Larry McCallon, Acting Chair
Technology Committee

AK:psc

Committee Members

Present: Vice Chair Michael Cacciotti
Supervisor Curt Hagman
Mayor Pro Tem Larry McCallon

Absent: Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson
Supervisor Andrew Do
Councilmember Carlos Rodriguez, Committee Chair
Board Member Veronica Padilla-Campos

Call to Order

Acting Committee Chair Larry McCallon called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Due to a needed quorum, Vice Chair Michael Cacciotti was appointed to the Committee by Acting Committee Chair Larry McCallon.

For additional details of the Technology Committee Meeting, please refer to the [Webcast](#).

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Execute Contracts, Adopt Resolutions to Recognize Funds and Reimburse General Fund to Implement Year 25 & 26 Carl Moyer, SOON, FARMER and Community Air Protection Programs, and Appropriate Funds for Development of Carl Moyer Program Grant Management System

In December 2022, Program Announcements for the Carl Moyer and Surplus Off-Road Opt-In for NOx (SOON) Programs were released and closed in May 2023. Over \$400M in grant applications were received. For FY 2023-24 CARB has tentatively allocated funds for the Carl Moyer Program, the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) and Community Air Protection Program (CAPP) to South Coast AQMD. These actions are to: 1) execute contracts for Carl Moyer, SOON, FARMER and CAPP in the amount of \$196,687,460; 2) authorize the Executive Officer to redistribute the source of funds for the various incentive program grants to ensure program liquidation targets are met; 3) adopt Resolutions, accept terms and conditions and recognize up to \$47,229,407 in Carl Moyer Program, up to \$706,800 in FARMER, and up to \$88,919,808 in CAPP funds from CARB for FY 2023-24; 4) reimburse General Fund for administrative costs up to \$2,951,838, \$44,175, and \$5,557,488, from the Carl Moyer, FARMER, CAPP Programs, respectively; and 5) transfer and appropriate up to \$200,000 comprised of \$100,000 from the administrative portions of each of the Community Air Protection AB 134 Fund (77) and the Carl Moyer Program Fund (32), into Information Management's FY 2023-24 and/or 2024-25 Budget, Services and Supplies and/or Capital Outlays Major Objects for the final phase of the grant management system development.

Acting Committee Chair McCallon commented that he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is the Chair of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, which is involved in this item.

Acting Committee Chair McCallon inquired about the prioritization of funds for projects on the backup list. Staff replied the funding is based on a cost-effectiveness threshold, the amount of NOx emissions reduced, and location in disadvantaged communities.

Ruby Laity, Principal Deputy District Counsel, announced that the following grant recipients have been withdrawn from the funding list at this time, for failure to submit a Campaign Contribution Disclosure: Jose Abel Beltran, Juan Manuel, Magana, Alright Already, LLC, California Steel Industries, Inc. and EV Charging Solutions, Inc. Ms. Laity explained if the Campaign Disclosures are submitted, these projects will be further considered at the February Board meeting.

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, expressed the importance of zero-emission and suggested further connection with local governments, co-ops and municipalities. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 4:00.

Moved by Hagman; seconded by Cacciotti; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cacciotti, Hagman, McCallon
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Do, Lock Dawson, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez

2. Recognize Funds and Execute MOU with City of Irvine for Lawn and Garden Equipment Projects

South Coast AQMD administers and implements both the Residential Electric Lawn Mower Rebate and the Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Incentive and Exchange Program. The City of Irvine would like to partner with South Coast AQMD to fund zero-emission lawn and garden equipment replacement for residents and businesses operating within the City of Irvine. These actions are to: 1) recognize funds from the City of Irvine up to \$18,750 into the General Fund for administrative costs and 2) authorize the Executive Officer to execute an MOU with the City of Irvine to fund lawn and garden equipment replacement in the City of Irvine.

Acting Committee Chair McCallon thanked staff for their work in the Commercial eL&G program and expressed support for the item.

Vice Chair Cacciotti requested clarification if funding is coming from the City of Irvine directly and inquired about the remaining funds in the current Commercial eL&G Program. Staff clarified that the funding will be supplied by the City of Irvine and added that there is currently over \$3.4 million left in the program. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 17:07.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Hagman; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cacciotti, Hagman, McCallon
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Do, Lock Dawson, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez

3. Execute Contract to Demonstrate Off-Grid Electrical Fast Charging Solution to Support UCLA's Electric Fleet

The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) is committed to a sustainability goal and has a comprehensive transportation plan to reduce its environmental impact, including electrifying its fleet. However, upgrading the electrical infrastructure will take some time. To address the infrastructure challenge, UCLA

plans to demonstrate an interim off-grid charging solution in partnership with GenCell, Inc. This action is to execute a contract with GenCell, Inc. to develop and demonstrate an off-grid fast charging solution to support UCLA's electric fleet in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31).

Acting Committee Chair McCallon inquired about the interaction with the grid and Maryam Hajbabaei, Program Supervisor, Technology Advancement Office explained that the Gencell EVOX charging solution would be connected to the grid, and the fuel cell would kick in to produce backup power during grid loss.

Councilmember Cacciotti asked whether the hydrogen is stored on the EVOX unit. Ms. Hajbabaei clarified that the hydrogen will be brought to the site in a separate trailer to feed the EVOX unit when needed. Supervisor Hagman pointed out that he fully supports this project. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 21:04.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Hagman; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cacciotti, Hagman, McCallon
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Do, Lock Dawson, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez

4. Execute Contract to Replace and Expand Existing Hydrogen Refueling Station at South Coast AQMD Headquarters

For over a decade, South Coast AQMD hosted a hydrogen refueling station at its headquarters that is part of a CEC award to Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. The current station's capacity to provide hydrogen refueling is limited. Recently, FirstElement Fuel, Inc. received a CEC grant in the amount of \$42.6 million to develop publicly accessible advanced hydrogen refueling stations. Additional funding is sought to clean up the site and expedite the replacement of the existing station. This action is to execute a contract with FirstElement to replace and expand the existing hydrogen refueling station at South Coast AQMD headquarters in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31). For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 25:50.

Moved by Hagman; seconded by Cacciotti; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cacciotti, Hagman, McCallon
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Do, Lock Dawson, Padilla-Campos, Rodriguez

OTHER MATTERS:

5. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

6. Public Comment Period

Mr. Eder expressed concern for equality amongst communities.

Rita Loof, RadTech International, encouraged the Committee and the South Coast AQMD to incentivize green technologies related to ultraviolet coatings. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 29:20

7. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 16, 2024, at noon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Attachment

Attendance Record

ATTACHMENT

**SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING
Attendance Record – January 19, 2024**

Councilmember Michael Cacciotti South Coast AQMD Board Member
Supervisor Curt Hagman South Coast AQMD Board Member
Mayor Pro Tem Larry McCallon South Coast AQMD Board Member

Debra Mendelsohn Board Consultant (McCallon)
Fred Minassian Board Consultant (Padilla-Campos)
Andy Silva Board Consultant (Lock Dawson)
Mark Taylor Board Consultant (Rodriguez)

Mark Abramowitz Public Member
Naveen Berry Public Member
Harvey Eder Public Solar Power Coalition
Fred Ellingson Public Member
Riley & Devon Public Member
Kristy Monji Public Member
Matt Miyasato FirstElement Fuel, Inc.
Tom Schamber Public Member
Tony Stephen Public Member
Michelle Stewart Metrolink

Derrick Alatorre South Coast AQMD Staff
Barbara Baird South Coast AQMD Staff
Cindy Bustillos South Coast AQMD Staff
Philip Crabbe III South Coast AQMD Staff
Christian Fielding South Coast AQMD Staff
Scott Gallegos South Coast AQMD Staff
Maryam Hajbabaei South Coast AQMD Staff
Sheri Hanizavareh South Coast AQMD Staff
Lauren Henninger South Coast AQMD Staff
Aaron Katzenstein South Coast AQMD Staff
Angela Kim South Coast AQMD Staff
Ruby Laity South Coast AQMD Staff
Howard Lee South Coast AQMD Staff
Tom Lee South Coast AQMD Staff
Ron Moskowitz South Coast AQMD Staff
Pami Mukherjee South Coast AQMD Staff

Susan Nakamura..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Wayne Nastri..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Kevin Orellana South Coast AQMD Staff
Vasileios Papapostolou..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Sarah Rees..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Kristin Remy South Coast AQMD Staff
Brian Roberts South Coast AQMD Staff
Paul Rodriguez South Coast AQMD Staff
Valeria Rivera South Coast AQMD Staff
Penny Shaw Cedillo South Coast AQMD Staff
Walter Shen..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Lisa Tanaka..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Yuh Juin Tan..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Donna Vernon South Coast AQMD Staff
Kristina Voorhees..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Mei Wang..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Michelle White..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Vicki White..... South Coast AQMD Staff
Paul Wright..... South Coast AQMD Staff