



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**South Coast AQMD Governing Board approves plans to reduce toxic air pollution in three disadvantaged communities**

*Plans include air quality priorities identified by affected residents*

**DIAMOND BAR**—Today, the South Coast Air Quality Management District’s (South Coast AQMD) Governing Board approved three Community Emissions Reduction Plans (CERPs), which identify actions to reduce emissions and exposure to toxic air pollution in three disadvantaged communities heavily impacted by air pollution.

The three CERPs are a result of 2017’s Assembly Bill 617 (C. Garcia), which requires local air districts to reduce the disproportionate impacts of air pollution in environmental justice communities. The communities of Wilmington/West Long Beach/Carson, San Bernardino/Muscoy, and Boyle Heights/East Los Angeles/West Commerce were selected for the first year of the program.

“We embrace our responsibility to ensure that all residents, especially those historically underrepresented, have access to resources that can improve the air they breathe,” said Dr. William A. Burke, South Coast AQMD’s Governing Board Chair. “This level of collaboration between the agency and these communities is unprecedented. Never before has something of this magnitude been attempted, and we will do everything within our power to make real changes for impacted residents.”

At the center of these efforts, are three Community Steering Committees that consist of members of the public who live, work, or go to school within the communities, and were established to provide input, and recommendations in the development and implementation of the CERPS. The steering committees also included elected officials, and representatives of local agencies, utilities and universities.

The adopted plans include specific actions that go beyond existing efforts by South Coast AQMD, to reduce emissions and/or exposures, an implementation schedule, an enforcement plan, and a description of the process and outreach conducted to develop them.

**Wilmington/West Long Beach/Carson CERP:** Aims to reduce air pollution from trucks and other mobile sources resulting in a seven percent reduction in nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) and a ten percent reduction in diesel particulate matter (PM) by 2024 and 35 percent NO<sub>x</sub> and 22 percent PM reductions by 2030. Additionally, the plan aims to reduce NO<sub>x</sub>, Sulphur Oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from refineries. Other specific actions include:

- Increased enforcement on truck idling;
- Develop an Indirect Source Rules for railyards; and
- Increase monitoring at ports and oil production facilities.

**San Bernardino/Muscoy CERP:** Aims to reduce air pollution from trucks and other mobile sources resulting in 10 percent NO<sub>x</sub> and PM reductions by 2024 and 21 percent in NO<sub>x</sub> and 15 percent in PM reductions by 2029. Specific actions include:

- Increased enforcement on truck idling;
- Focused air monitoring and inspections for concrete and asphalt batch plants and other identified facilities; and
- Develop Indirect Source Rules for railyards and warehouses.

**Boyle Heights/East Los Angeles/West Commerce:** Will aim to reduce air pollution from trucks and other mobile sources resulting in an eight percent reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> and a nine percent reduction in PM by 2024 and a 20 percent in NO<sub>x</sub> and 13 percent in PM reductions by 2029. Specific actions include:

- Increased enforcement on truck idling in targeted areas;
- Replacing older polluting cars and trucks with cleaner models;
- Develop Indirect Source Rules for railyards and warehouses; and
- Reduce emissions from metal processing, rendering and other industrial facilities including autobody shops.

To produce the CERPs, the South Coast AQMD undertook comprehensive efforts and partnerships with local communities to ensure that each of the three plans addresses the individual community's air quality priorities. In July of 2019, South Coast AQMD began air monitoring unique to each community based on community input. The data collected from air monitoring will provide additional information about sources of air pollution, types of pollutants, and air quality impacts in the communities.

South Coast AQMD, with input from CARB, held a total of 41 meetings, workshops and community tours, and more than 60 individual meetings, to identify and prioritize action items, develop emissions reductions actions, and discuss community air monitoring plans.

The plans will now be submitted to CARB for final review and approval. CARB has scheduled a public hearing on the CERPs on March 16, 2020. Implementation is to take place over approximately five years.

Also at today's meeting, the Governing Board approved the following areas for the second year of the AB 617 program: the Southeast Los Angeles community of South Gate/Florence-Firestone/Walnut Park/West Huntington Park/Cudahy/Southern Bell Gardens; and the Eastern Coachella Valley community of Indio/Coachella/Thermal/Oasis/Mecca/North Shore. The Board's recommendations will be forwarded to CARB for final selection.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us @SouthCoastAQMD on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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