

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
August 15, 2023
MINUTES

Director's Report

Ali R. Ghasemi, Air Pollution Control Officer shared that regarding staffing, the District has received several applications for the open Public Information Officer position. Applicants are being ranked and interviews will begin shortly. Otherwise, District operations have been operating normally. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee for EPA has recommended the ozone standard be reduced to 55 to 60 parts per billion (ppb). The District's current ozone concentration is about 70 ppb. Additionally, EPA is considering reducing the PM_{2.5} standard which the District anticipates Ventura County will not exceed. The Voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction and Sustainable Shipping Program, also known as AB 953, has passed state assembly.

I. Call to Order

Chair Sara Head called the meeting to order at approximately 6:37 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Donald Bird

Edward Carloni

Jan Hauser

Rainford Hunter

Hugh McTernan

Richard Nick

Joan Burns

Stephen Frank

Sara Head

Kirsten Marble

Paul Meehan

Excused

Steve Colomé

Aracely Preciado

Thomas Lucas

Absent (not excused)

Jay Berger

Michael Hughes

Jennifer Hernández

Staff

Ali Ghasemi

Tyler Harris

Keith Macias

Holly Galbreath

John Henkelman

Greg Soyster

Public
None

III. Minutes

Sara Head asked if any members would like to make a motion to approve the minutes. Stephen Frank moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2023, Advisory Committee Meeting. Richard Nick seconded the motion. The Committee voted ten yes and one abstention.

IV. Chair Report and/or Comments from the Committee (not related to agenda items)

Chair Sara Head did not have a Chair report. The Committee did not have any questions or comments for items not on the agenda.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

VII. New Business

Proposed New Rule 74.35, Flares

Tyler Harris provided an overview of the changes to new Rule 74.35 which was initially presented in the June 27, 2023 Advisory Committee meeting. The changes in new Rule 74.35 were in response to comments from Clean Water SoCal who expressed concerns that the rule did not include a limit for minor source wastewater treatment plants and only included a limit for major sources. In response, the District included minor source limits for digester gas and clarified that the original limit applies to major sources only. Additionally, the District added definitions to the rule for “Major Source” and “Minor Source.” Based on Counsel comments, the District revised the wording for reporting requirements under Subsection D.5.

After the presentation Hugh McTernan asked if any minor source treatment plants in the County may become major sources within the next ten years. Tyler Harris responded that he does not anticipate any minor sources to become major sources in the next ten years.

Jan Hauser asked what the determination between a major source and minor source is. Tyler Harris explained that minor sources are defined as anything under 25 tons of NO_x or ROG per year while major sources are anything above that.

Joan Burns asked if there was any communication from the District to wastewater treatment facilities regarding the new rule. Tyler Harris responded that the District did correspond with wastewater treatment plants throughout the development of the new rule.

Jan Hauser asked who submitted comments regarding the new rule. Tyler Harris clarified that Clean Water SoCal is the entity who submitted comments.

Paul Meehan asked if the smokeless requirement is attainable and how that is controlled. Ali Ghasemi explained that visible smoke is determined by combustion efficiency and the conditions of the pilot component which may become dirty or be operating incorrectly which may cause visible smoke.

Sara Head asked if there were any other comments or questions. No other questions or comments were given.

Hugh McTernan made a motion that the Committee recommend to the Air Pollution Control Board adoption of the proposed new Rule 74.35 as written by staff. Joan Burns seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted yes.

VIII. Committee Business: Proposed Amendments to Advisory Committee Bylaws

Tyler Harris proposed changes to the Committee bylaws including updating Article 6, Section 1.B to clarify that bylaw amendments may be recommended by the Advisory Committee for Board approval. Stephen Frank made a motion that the Committee recommend to the Air Pollution Control Board the proposed changes to the Committee bylaws. Edward Carloni seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted yes.

IX. Adjournment

Having no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Prepared by:

Holly Galbreath

Air Pollution Control District Staff