

SCAQMD Air Quality Management Plan Advisory Group Meeting
April 16, 2020
Held by video conferencing

On April 16, the South Coast Air Quality Management District held an Air Quality Management Plan Advisory Group Meeting. The Advisory Group reviews the overall aspects of a draft air quality management plan and to makes recommendations concerning emission inventories, modeling, control measures, and socioeconomic impacts. CHBC Executive Director, Jeff Serfass, participated.

Philip Fine, Deputy Executive Officer for Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources chaired the meeting. Sarah Rees, Assistant Deputy Officer reviewed upcoming SIP Obligations which it was reported are not optional. EPA will likely issue a Notice of Nonattainment for the 2006 24 hr PM 2.5 standard. A SIP revision is due to EPA by December 31, 2020, with details on annual reductions, an emission inventory, a demonstration of attainment and contingency measures. A draft plan is scheduled to be released Fall 2020.

The Coachella Valley was classified as a Severe Nonattainment Area for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard, resulting in Clean Air Act reclassification to Extreme Nonattainment with a SIP revision due to EPA February 2021 with a new attainment date of June 2024. A draft plan is scheduled to be released Fall 2020. Other SIP schedule and Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration plans were reviewed. CARB presented information on the 70 ppb 8-hour ozone standard baseline for South Coast Air basin and Coachella Valley, and VMT Emissions Offset demonstrations requirements, with a draft plan to CARB Board June 2020 and submittal to EPA August 2020. The Clean Air Act requires offsetting growth in emissions due to growth in Vehicle Miles traveled in the South Coast Air basin and Coachella Valley through implementation of TCS and TCM for VOC emissions. 2020 will continue to be a busy year for South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley air quality compliance.