Assembly Bill 617
Community Selection Process for Year 2

July 30, 2019
Valley Challenges Unmatched

• Surrounding mountains and meteorology create ideal conditions for air pollution formation and retention
• High poverty and unemployment rates (20 of 30 most disadvantaged communities in state)
• High rate of population growth
• I-5 and Hwy 99 (major transportation arteries) run all the way through Valley
Clean Air Efforts in the San Joaquin Valley

- Toughest air regulations on businesses and industries large and small
- Toughest air regulations on farms and dairies
- Reduction of risk from existing and new stationary sources through District’s permitting and air toxics hot spots programs
- $2.4 billion dollars of public/private investment on incentive-based emissions reductions
  - More than 155,000 tons of emissions reduced
- Toughest regulations on cars and trucks
- Toughest regulations on consumer products and what people can do inside their homes
- Work continues to identify additional emission reductions necessary to meet the latest federal air quality standards
Major Reductions in Pollution

91% Reduction in Stationary Source Emissions
Population Exposure to High PM2.5 Days
85% Reduction
Assembly Bill 617 Overview

• AB 617 passed by state legislature in 2017 to address potentially high cumulative exposure burdens from toxics and criteria pollutants in some communities

• Through robust public engagement process, CARB and air districts must develop and implement community specific:
  – Statewide uniform emissions reporting processes
  – Community air monitoring networks
  – Community emission reduction plans
  – Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT)
Community Air Monitoring

- Local air monitoring networks may be established for each selected community
  - Provides localized and more spatially dense air quality information
Community Air Monitoring (cont’d)
Community Emission Reduction Programs

• Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERP) advised by Community Steering Committee process
• Lays out plan to reduce pollution in each selected community
• Elements of a CERP include:
  – Understanding the community
  – Community partnerships and public engagement
  – What are the air pollution challenges facing the community?
  – What are solutions for these challenges?
  – Implementation schedule
  – Enforcement plan
  – Metrics to track progress over time
Community Emission Reduction Programs (cont’d)

• CERPs include measures developed to reduce emissions and improve air quality in selected communities
  – Commitments by District, CARB, local government, and other state agencies

• CERP document must be completed and approved 1 year after a community is selected under AB 617
  – Requires approval by District Governing Board and CARB
AB 617 Year 1 Community Selection Process

• Through public process, District established community prioritization methodology
  – CalEnviroScreen overall scores
  – Diesel particulate matter
  – Population weighted exposure to high concentrations of ozone and PM2.5
  – Poverty
• July 2018: District submits Year 1 recommendations to CARB
  – Recommended North Bakersfield, South Central Fresno, and City of Shafter
• September 2018: CARB selects Year 1 communities
  – 10 communities selected statewide for initial year
  – In Valley, selected South Central Fresno and the City of Shafter
AB 617 Implementation Progress for Year 1 Communities

- Community Steering Committees established for each community in the Fall of 2018
  - Majority of committees are residents of community
  - Also includes workers and business owners, community groups, city and county representation
Review of community level emissions inventory: South Central Fresno
AB 617 Implementation Progress for Year 1 Communities (cont’d)

- Review of community level emissions inventory: Shafter
• Numerous steering committee meetings held since Fall of 2018
  – Discussion on a significant number of topics
  – Implementation of community air monitoring networks has begun
  – Nearing completion of CERPs for both communities (must be submitted to CARB by October 2019)
AB 617 Implementation Progress for Year 1 Communities (cont’d)

• Significant recent investment of incentive funding to support goals of AB 617
  – 24 zero-emission all-electric school buses to replace older high-polluting diesel buses
  – 6 older locomotives replaced with cleanest available technology
  – More than 650 pieces of older, high-polluting off-road equipment replaced with cleanest available technology
  – 8 older, high-polluting on-road trucks replaced with near-zero emission natural gas technology
AB 617 Year 2 Implementation Timeline

• District beginning process for Year 2 community recommendations
  – Recommendations must be submitted to CARB in Fall 2019
  – CARB to make final community selections in December 2019, ahead of January 1, 2020 deadline
  – New community air monitoring networks to be implemented by January 2021
  – New community CERPs to be submitted to CARB by January 2021
Community Feedback Received

- Consider updating District’s prioritization methodology and recommendations
  - Multiple complex criteria used by District in Year 1
- Consider placing greater focus on community prioritization and recommendations in Northern Region
  - Year 1 communities in Central and Southern Regions
  - Significant community interest in Northern Region (e.g. Stockton)
Community Feedback Needed

• Methodology for identifying and prioritizing Valley communities for Year 2 recommendations to CARB
• Nominations for Valley communities for Year 2 consideration
  - [http://community.valleyair.org/community-identification](http://community.valleyair.org/community-identification)
  - Recommendations requested by August 27, 2019
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Open Discussion

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