

AB 617 Shafter Community Steering Committee- Meeting # 15

October 21, 2019, 5:30 pm

Shafter Veterans Hall

1. Doors Open/ Meet and Greet/Refreshments

Members of the committee and the public viewed the air monitoring van and other equipment.

2. Welcome and Introduction

Christal Love Lazard, Institute for Local Government, Facilitator

Christal welcomed the Steering Committee, and invited all attendees to view the monitoring van. After a brief review of the meeting exercise, Christal introduced Jessica Olsen.

3. Community Air Monitoring Program

Jessica Olsen, Program Manager and John Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning

Jessica Olsen provided an update on the community air monitoring program in Shafter. She discussed the air monitoring site locations and the toxics they will measure. Members of the committee and the public were asked for additional feedback for one more air monitoring site.

John Klassen provided an update on the air monitoring data. John discussed PM2.5 data collected from the air monitors located at Grimmway Academy and DMV in Shafter for the last 3 quarters. He also compared PM2.5 data collected from Bakersfield, Corcoran, Oildale and Shafter. John stated the District will have data information for PM10 after the almond harvesting season ends. Jessica and John provided answers to questions from Committee members and the public.

Questions & Comments

- How soon will we be able to see PM2.5 data?
- Does CARB have an update for PM10 data?
- I saw the monitoring stations, but I don't see one for freeway 99. There is a bad odor every morning. The smell reaches all the way to Shafter, we can't even have our windows open. Can we add a stationary monitor at this time?
- Is the data for Corcoran and Oildale on the District's website?
- The Mexican Colony has a community Committee. Have you reach out to them?
- What is the average data for PM2.5?
- We asked for trees on freeway 99 to I-5. There is a lot of dust from the almond harvesters. We need to correct this issue.
- What are the PM2.5 standards from CARB?

- Why haven't we talked about Valley Fever?
- Will the monitoring van be available at night during wood burning season?
- 99 gets extremely foggy at night from dust, are you going to monitor that?

4. Update on Statewide Pesticides Measures

Jesse Cuevas, Chief Deputy Director for DPR and Edgar Vidrio, DPR Staff

Jesse Cuevas Chief Deputy Director for the Department of Pesticides discussed the possibility of providing pesticide monitors and pesticide notifications for the public to access. DPR will be holding public workshops in the coming months throughout the state to discuss the pesticide notification system and mitigation strategies for 1,3-D short term exposures.

Edgar Vidrio from the Department of Pesticides provided a brief presentation of a previous workshop discussing state wide mitigation strategies for 1,3-Dichloroprone. The measures may also include buffer zone requirements, application limits and possible tarping. Edgar also mentioned a discussion to address options to reduce the use of fumigants and other pesticides. DPR continues to prohibit the use of 1,3-D through the month of December as the air concentration levels are high during this time. DPR is considering requiring the use of traps during all or some applications. DPR is also proposing to require an (FMP) Field Management Plan from all applicators. Edgar provided answers to questions from the Committee members and the public.

Questions & Comments for DPR

- We would like to see the current charts? The charts we were shown are outdated.
- Is this to encourage more tarping?
- Are you looking at health standards for exposure to pesticides?
- Why does OEHHA have higher health standards than DPR?
- I was able to attend DPR'S workshop. Do you have information regarding the animal study performed on lab rats?
- What is DPR recommending for tarping?

5. Community Emission Reduction Program

Jessica Olsen, Valley Air District, Program Manager

Jessica provided an update on the three stages of the Community Emission Reduction Program. Items in Stage 1 are those that have been implemented or are already happening. Items in Stage 3 are items the District needs feedback from CARB or the Districts Board as these are unique suggestions or require match funding. Items in Stage 2 are items that the District has guidelines to move forward with, but the District needs the Committees guidance to set priorities on these items.

Prioritization exercise:

The committee was asked to prioritize the items under Stage 2 by placing a note under the categories “Love it”, “Like it” or “want”. Items under “Love it” would take top priority, “Like it” would be items under second priority and “want” are new items to consider.

6. Wrap-up and Next Steps

Christal Love Lazard, facilitator

Christal thanked the Steering Committee and the public for their participation and informed them the next steering committee meeting will be a joint meeting with CARB and would be Monday, November 4, 2019.

**Refer to meeting audio to review the full details and comments from the meeting.*

<http://community.valleyair.org/selected-communities/shafter/steering-committee-meetings/>