

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, California 94109

APPROVED MINUTES

Advisory Council Public Health Committee Meeting
12:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 12, 2004

1. **Call to Order – Roll Call.** 12:30 p.m. Quorum Present: Linda Weiner, Chairperson; Diane Bailey, Sanjiv Bhandari, Elinor Blake, Jeffrey Bramlett, Victor Torreano, Brian Zamora.
2. **Public Comment Period.** There were no public comments.
3. **Approval of Minutes of April 19, 2004.** Chairperson Blake stated she would present two minor typographical edits to the Deputy Clerk after the meeting and moved the minutes be approved; seconded by Mr. Torreano; carried unanimously.

4. **Discussion of the District's Proposed Community Risk Reduction Program (CRRP) and Toxics New Source Review Rule-Making.** Chairperson Weiner stated that today the Committee would discuss the staff presentations on these topics made at the previous Committee meeting.

In response to questions from the Committee, Gary Kendall, Technical Division Director, and Brian Bateman, Engineering Division Director, provided the following answers:

The District will develop a one-kilometer (1 km) gridded toxics emission inventory for the Bay Area that will include stationary, mobile and area source emissions. From this plot, one or two communities with greatest emissions density will be chosen for monitoring for the cumulative risk assessment pilot project that will address cumulative emissions from stationary sources. These data will be compared with incremental risk assessment data to determine whether there is a significant difference between incremental and cumulative risk assessment approaches.

- a) Targeted action plans are not limited to the areas chosen for cumulative risk assessment monitoring, and can be applied more broadly to areas with greater emissions on the grid.
- b) The definition of disproportionately impacted communities has not yet been established. The advisory committee for the CRRP will no doubt evaluate this criterion.
- c) The South Coast AQMD developed a 2 km gridded emission inventory that also incorporated photochemical modeling for mapping emission concentrations. Inclusion of photochemical modeling requires complex meteorological inputs that include broad annual averages and specific data sets with variations by day of week and time of day.
- d) The CRRP advisory committee should review the suggestions that staff coordinate with the San Mateo County Health Department's public outreach work concerning health disparities, as well as with the staff from other city and county health departments in the Bay Area, and with the appropriate contact persons involved with the Bayview Hunters Point project.

- e) The project advisory committee should also review Ms. Blake's suggestion that the District's outreach include a staff member that is a formally trained health educator with inter-agency and community organizing skills, since the CRRP will contain a public outreach component.
- f) Staff will use California Air Resources Board (CARB) procedures in forming the model for the cumulative risk assessment. The 1 km gridded emission plot will not include modeling.
- g) The list of suggested participants to the advisory committee to the project is prototypical and adding a health official to it is certainly doable. The Public Health Committee could submit questions for the advisory committee to review as it works its way through the issues. The advisory committee should also refer questions to the Public Health Committee for review. The suggestion that one Public Health Committee member sit on the advisory committee and report back to the Public Health Committee as liaisons is well taken.
- h) The program time line is for the proposal to be considered by the Budget & Finance Committee and then the Board, which is scheduled to hold two public hearings on the budget in June. Since the CRRP was last discussed with the Committee, one of the positions proposed for this program will not be funded per direction of the Budget & Finance committee, and that work may be contracted out. The dollar amount proposed for the program appears to be the same at this time. The point at which the program features could be reviewed is not yet known and will depend on when the advisory committee is assembled. Some technical aspects are moving forward including the purchase of a carbon analyzer and the submittal of archived PM10 filters for analysis by Desert Research Institute.
- i) The results from the CRRP will form the basis for future policy development.

The Committee members noted that the framing the tasks of the CRRP offers the District an opportunity to reach out into the community, starting with the staff of health departments and coordinating with frameworks they have developed. Going forward with the technical processes is timely and will help meet community expectations to produce the product promptly. While the project will form the basis for policy, the process will take considerable time to complete.

Mr. Zamora requested that these comments be brought to the full Council for discussion, preceded by an abbreviated presentation from staff on the CRRP. Ms. Blake suggested the minutes from this meeting form the basis for identifying the key discussion issues, along with the April 19 minutes at which the CRRP was discussed in greater detail in a previous iteration.

Chairperson Weiner reminded the Committee that its original charge was to review TNSR rule making, and that it should be kept apprised of the rule-development process as it goes along. Ms. Bailey suggested that that staff consider making special provisions for sensitive receptors (children, the elderly, and the sites they frequent, schools, daycare centers, hospitals, etc.) and that stricter limits be set for such areas. The South Coast AQMD white paper on cumulative risk refers to this type of approach. Mr. Bateman replied that while staff has received comments that allowable risk levels were too high, so far none have suggested that these are too high for sensitive receptors. While staff considers the current risk levels health protective, it can certainly review this matter. The white paper on cumulative risk addresses emissions near schools, and the District has fairly good data set for this category.

Mr. Zamora indicated that health department staff could identify in a discussion with District staff the location of senior citizen centers, convalescent homes and hospitals. Mr. Bateman noted that the rapid provision of such information for 50 permit applications a month for purposes of completing risk-screening analysis is challenging within the tight schedules for permits. Data inputs also need to be in electronic form and are most problematic when they concern land-use data. Current data sets also do not provide reliable data on sensitive receptors. However, the District's risk assessment approach is to treat everyone as a sensitive receptor and to adopt risk levels that protect them. An approach that includes differential standards would require very large resources to accommodate the vast increase in analytical complexity.

Ms. Blake replied that some counties are updating their emergency response capability and know the location of the sensitive receptors. The Office of Emergency Services may have data in this field as well. Mr. Bateman replied that for microscale analysis these would require detailed geo-coding. Ms. Bailey opined that the public may expect the District to develop this data. Ms. Blake noted that this is also a city and/or county zoning issue. She suggested that the advisory committee include a member with expertise in Graphical System Interface software.

Chairperson Weiner called for public comment. Dennis Bolt, Western States Petroleum Association, stated that these issues involve reciprocity. Businesses cannot be sited unless they are approved by local authority as to their location with respect to schools, daycare and senior citizen centers. Office parks in Silicon Valley are being encouraged to bring in daycare centers. The public health standard in the Bay Area is strict. To include these issues in TNSR rule-making is one-sided and regionally detrimental, and will discourage business from locating in the Bay Area and encourage jobs to go overseas.

Ms. Bailey replied that the issue concerns more of a safety net that would prevent uninformed decision making about co-locating of facilities that pose health risks. The District should have authority to intervene with a rule that would prohibit unhealthy co-location from occurring and past mistakes in siting from re-occurring. Mr. Bolt replied that, near where he lives, two gas stations, one dry cleaner and a daycare center are found on one street corner. There may be emissions regulations for facilities near schools, but the land-use field provides considerable flexibility for co-location. Mr. Bramlett added that there are some rules that govern child-care centers where pre-approval is required for establishing an evacuation point.

5. **Committee Member Comments/Other Business.** There were none.
6. **Time and Place of Next Meeting.** 1:30 p.m., Monday, July 19, 2004, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, California 94109.
7. **Adjournment.** 1:40 p.m.

James N. Corazza
Deputy Clerk of the Boards