AB617: Protecting Community Health

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Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Community Health Protection Officer
Overview

• Health Protection in the Bay Area
• Selecting Communities
• Incentives
• Next Steps
Community Health Protection: An Air Quality Lens

**Air Pollutants**
- emission rates
- types of emissions

**Ambient Concentration**
- types of pollutants
- topography
- wind patterns

**Exposure and Dose**
- breathing rate
- location
- time

**Health Effects**
- dose
- susceptibility
CARE: First Community Health Protection Program

• Complements traditional air quality planning

• Highlights communities most affected by high exposure and those vulnerable to air pollution
  
  ○ Maps areas of greater health impact based on cumulative air pollution levels and existing adverse health outcomes
  
  ○ Identifies vulnerable communities

• Strives to fill a gap in health protection between regional and facility-scale assessments

AB 617

A New Approach to Community Health Protection

• Originated in negotiations regarding the extension of Cap & Trade program

• Responds to concerns about high air pollution levels in local communities

• Directly addresses toxics and criteria pollutants in the most impacted communities
Program Goals

• Community Participation

• Eliminate Air Quality Disparities

• Reduce Health Burdens

• Continuous Evaluation and Improvement
Program Components

- Community Input
- Available Information
- Select All AB 617 Communities
- Prioritize Communities
- Incentives
- Build Capacity
- Monitoring
- Action Plan
Program Components

- **Community Input**: March – June 2018
- **Available Information**: June 2018
- **Select All AB 617 Communities**: Oct 2018
- **Prioritize Communities**: Ongoing
- **Incentives**: First round June 2019
- **Build Capacity**: Ongoing
- **Monitoring**: Begins July 2019
- **Action Plan**: First plan Oct 2019

**State selects additional communities for monitoring and/or action plans annually, beginning Oct 2019**
Community Selection

*State requires districts to work with communities to select all areas in the region that have a “**high cumulative exposure burden**” and then prioritize areas for community monitoring and/or actions plans over the next 6 years.*
## Criteria Used to Select all Candidate Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CARE</th>
<th>Additional Impacts (_1)</th>
<th>Other Large Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• High pollutants</td>
<td>• Life expectancy</td>
<td>• Oil refineries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fine particles</td>
<td>• Low birth weight</td>
<td>• Cement plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• toxics</td>
<td>• Diesel exhaust</td>
<td>• Chemical plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ozone</td>
<td>• Traffic</td>
<td>• Marine ports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mortality</td>
<td>• Socioeconomic factors</td>
<td>• Airports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cancer risk</td>
<td>• Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ER visits and hospitalizations due to</td>
<td>• Housing costs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>air pollution</td>
<td>• Access to transportation</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Additional impacts include all data indices from CalEnviroScreen and Healthy Places Index
Areas Recommended to State

- CARE Areas
- Areas with large sources
- Areas with health vulnerability and pollution impacts
- Areas with low life expectancy
Highway 4 Area Sources

- Power plants
- Chemical plants
- Petroleum refineries
- Chrome plating facility
- Waste facilities
- Metal facilities
- Freeways and major roadways
How do we prioritize communities for action?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air Quality</th>
<th>Health Burden/Vulnerability</th>
<th>Other Factors?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fine particles</td>
<td>Life expectancy</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toxics</td>
<td>Lung disease</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heart disease</td>
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</table>
Community Health Protection Grant Program

- $250 million available statewide to support immediate emission reductions
- $50 million to the Bay Area for clean technology:
  - Trucks
  - Buses
  - Locomotives
  - Construction Equipment
  - Agriculture Equipment
Grant Requirements

• Early actions

• Prioritize communities:
  • Interstate 880/80 Corridor: Hayward to Richmond
  • Refinery Corridor – Rodeo, Vallejo, Martinez to Pittsburg

• Community engagement
  • Survey on sources and projects
  • Over 500 responses representing over 80 cities in region

• Cleanest available technologies
Questions

• How should we prioritize areas for action plans or monitoring?

• Are there other sources of pollution that future funds should address?

• Are there other pollution or exposure reduction projects we should fund?
What we’ve heard: selecting communities

• Overall strong support for community selection criteria

• In selecting communities, we should consider:
  • Odors
  • Heavy idling
  • History of regulatory violations
  • Income, race, and other factors that magnify health impacts
  • Historical contamination
  • Traffic congestion
  • Residential wood burning
  • Communities with engaged partners and existing infrastructure
  • Communities that have been left behind
What we’ve heard: overall program

• Improve Air District permitting process
  o Factor in cumulative impact before permitting

• Prevent increased air pollution in overburdened communities
  o Consider permit moratorium in impacted communities

• Challenge what is acceptable air pollution

• Provide grants to communities to perform community outreach

• Provide community assistance in accessing grant funding

• Be transparent, open, and accountable
Early response: to what we’ve heard

• Universe of all AB 617 communities is fairly inclusive

• Working in AB 617 communities to build capacity and reduce emissions
  o Targeted Health Risk Assessments for existing sources (Rule 11-18)
  o New incentive programs
  o Grants for community based organizations

• Exploring wide array of permitting ideas
  o Land use and CEQA guidance
  o Permitting policies and procedures
  o Cumulative impacts
  o Rules and regulations
Thank you for being here.

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How should we select communities for years 2-5?

Map it!
Where should we focus?
Where are sources of pollution?

What does success look like?

Interactive Stations

How concerned are you about the air pollution caused by various equipment types?