

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Stationary Source Committee Special Meeting

Costa County Administration Building
1025 Escobar St.
Conference Rooms 110 A, B, & C
Martinez, CA 94553

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

APPROVED MINUTES

*This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the
Bay Area Air Quality Management District at
www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas*

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Stationary Source Committee (Committee) Chairperson, Ken Carlson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Costa County Administration Building, 1025 Escobar St., Conference Rooms 110 A, B, & C, Martinez, CA 94553): Chairperson Ken Carlson; Vice Chairperson Lynda Hopkins; and Directors Dionne Adams, John Gioia, Gabe Quinto, Lena Tam, and Steve Young.

Absent: Directors Brian Colbert and Rico E. Medina.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE STATIONARY SOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 11, 2025**

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Tam made a motion, seconded by Director Adams, to **approve** the Draft Minutes of the Stationary Source Committee meeting of June 11, 2025; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES:	Adams, Carlson, Gioia, Quinto, Tam, Young.
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Hopkins.
ABSENT:	Colbert, Medina.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. GREEN EMPOWERMENT ZONE

Note: The Green Empowerment Zone (GEZ) was formed by Assembly Bill 844 and includes thirteen cities and portions of the unincorporated area of Contra Costa County. The GEZ “builds upon the comparative advantage provided by the regional concentration of highly skilled energy industry workers by prioritizing access to tax incentives, grants, loan programs, workforce training programs, and private sector investment in the renewable energy sector (Governing Board of the Green Empowerment Zone).” The Governing Board of the GEZ is currently led by Air District Board member, John Gioia, who serves as Chair.

John Kopchik, Director of Contra Costa County’s Department of Conservation and Development, gave the presentation *Overview of the Green Empowerment Zone*, including: key topics to be covered; overview of the GEZ; authorizing legislation Assembly Bill (AB) 844 (Grayson); GEZ as approved on April 19, 2024; current GEZ Board members; proposed cleanup Legislation Senate Bill (SB) 227 (Grayson); Contra Costa County’s role in the GEZ; High-Road (HR) strategy for clean energy manufacturing; University of California at Berkeley (UCB) Strategy A: research on priorities and growth strategies; UCB Strategy B: technical assistance to facilitate HR partnerships and inform strategies; UCB Strategy C: policy recommendations to accelerate HR growth; Marketing Committee; and complementary countywide initiatives.

Dr. Jessie HF Hammerling, Co-Director of UCB’s Green Economy Program, also gave comments, as a partner in this endeavor.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Maureen Brennan, Rodeo resident.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed refinery workers’ concerns about the just transition to a low-carbon economy, and the desire for maximum transparency by policy makers who will be implementing recommendations; whether there are similar models or initiatives/efforts in California state with the same objective (identify projects and programs that will best utilize public dollars and most quickly improve a given area’s economic vitality in a coordinated effort

to support the development of the clean energy economy); the matrix of all involved permitting agencies, including the Air District's current efforts to streamline its permitting process; the suggestion that a new seat be created on the GEZ specifically for an Air District Board member; concerns that the closure of Bay Area refineries will trigger an oil war at the scale of international conflicts driven by oil resources; concerns regarding subsidiary businesses that rely on Bay Area refineries as their main clients; the amount of time it can take for a community to fully recover from an economic downturn caused by the loss of a major industry; barriers to attracting new energy economy businesses; and how quickly a petroleum refinery may be closed and decommissioned.

Committee Action

No action taken.

5. REFINERY COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Dr. Kate Hoag, Assistant Meteorology and Measurement Manager, gave the staff presentation *Refinery Community Air Monitoring Program Update*, including: outline; refinery community air monitoring programs; other air and emissions monitoring programs; community air monitoring stations near refineries; steps in constructing and air monitoring station; update on refinery air monitoring stations; refinery community fenceline air monitoring requirements; current refinery fenceline implementation; Chevron fenceline air monitoring settlement agreement; motivation for improved fenceline monitoring requirements; potential improvements under consideration; and tentative rule development timeline.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Kathy Kerridge, Benicia resident; Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County; Charles Davidson, Hercules resident; and Maureen Brennan, Rodeo resident.

Committee Comments

The Committee and Air District staff discussed the public's desire for: real-time data that is published with integrity, to know emission sources, when emission levels exceed thresholds, subsequent health impacts, subsequent action that needs to be taken, and meaningful interpretations of data by health professionals; whether the Air District has collaborated with, or mimicked the efforts of PurpleAir to add an additional data layer in fenceline communities, as PurpleAir is a tool that many people already use; the advocacy for communities that do not contain refineries within their jurisdiction, but are still impacted by transported emissions from neighboring communities, to also receive monitoring stations; the level of stakeholder engagement; whether the Air District is satisfied with the current fenceline monitoring technology; whether refineries use the same monitoring technology; the fact that some air pollution floats over fenceline monitors; and the belief that the public has higher expectations than what the Air District can currently deliver.

Committee Action

No action taken.

6. **INCIDENT RESPONSE PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

A. Incident Response Program Overview

Dr. Meredith Bauer, Deputy Executive Officer for Engineering and Compliance, and Joe Lapka, Principal Air Quality Specialist, gave the staff presentation *Incident Response Program Overview*, including: outline; Strategic Plan framework; Strategy 4.8 (Air Quality Incidents) commitments; Incident Response and Program scope and improvements; ongoing coordination efforts; communication updates; Particle Fallout Sampling Program for refinery communities; progress on Core Sampling Network; progress on the Community Workgroup and its responsibilities; Strategic Plan: and action to improve incident response.

B. After Incident Review: February 1, 2025 Martinez Refining Company (MRC) Fire

Ed Giacometti, Compliance and Enforcement Manager, gave the staff presentation *After Incident Review (February 1, 2025 at MRC)*, including: outline; MRC Refinery fire overview; immediate response: Air District Inspection Team and communications; responding agencies; follow-up response: post-incident investigation and public communication; enforcement actions; and air quality and risk screening.

C. Contra Costa Health Department MRC Fire Incident Update

Nicole Heath, Director of Hazardous Materials for Contra Costa Health, gave the presentation *MRC 2025 Fire*, including: description of event; health impacts of release; risk assessment; summary; Swiss Cheese Model representation; and Contra Costa Health next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the history of Contra Costa County's Industrial Safety Ordinance (adopted January 1999) that authorizes the County to regulate safety at facilities that produce certain regulated substances; concern that during incidents, those answering the Air District's complaint phone line sometimes are not aware of the incidents; during a hazardous materials incident, the amount of time between the issuance of a Level 2 public notification and a Level 3 public notification, and which entity determines the hazardous levels of the incident; the advantages and disadvantages of over and under-notification to the public during an incident; and perceived levels of improvement in communication over the years in Contra Costa County.

Committee Action

No action taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

No requests received.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

9. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

At the end of the meeting, the next meeting of the Stationary Source Committee was to be Wednesday, September 10, 2025. After the meeting adjourned, the date was changed to Wednesday, October 8, 2025, , and then, to November 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. The meeting will be in-person for the Stationary Source Committee members and members of the public will be able to either join in-person or via webcast.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Board