ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING

WEDNESDAY
JULY 13, 2011
9:00 A.M.

7TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM
939 ELLIS STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA  94109

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
Opening Comments
Roll Call
Ken Blonski, Chairperson
Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3. The public has the opportunity to speak on any agenda item. All agendas for Advisory Council meetings are posted at the District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, at least 72 hours before a meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, an opportunity is also provided for the public to speak on any subject within the Council’s purview. Speakers are limited to three minutes each.

CONSENT CALENDAR
1. Approval of Minutes of the June 8, 2011 Advisory Council meeting.

DISCUSSION
2. Discussion of draft report on the Advisory Council’s June 8, 2011 meeting.

   The Advisory Council will discuss the draft report on the June 8, 2011 meeting on Ultrafine Particles: Sources and Characteristics with Air District staff and finalize the recommendations.


   Advisory Council members who attended the Annual AWMA meeting from June 21-24 will report on their experiences.
OTHER BUSINESS

4. Council Member Comments/Other Business

_Council Members may make a brief announcement, provide a reference to staff about factual information, or ask questions about subsequent meetings._

5. Time and Place of Next Meeting

_9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. at 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109._

6. Adjournment

CONTACT EXECUTIVE OFFICE - 939 ELLIS STREET SF, CA 94109

• To submit written comments on an agenda item in advance of the meeting.

• To request, in advance of the meeting, to be placed on the list to testify on an agenda item.

• To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities notification to the Clerk’s Office should be given in a timely manner, so that arrangements can be made accordingly.

• Any writing relating to an open session item on this Agenda that is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the body to which this Agenda relates shall be made available at the District’s offices at 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109, at the time such writing is made available to all, or a majority of all, members of that body. Such writing(s) may also be posted on the District’s website (www.baaqmd.gov) at that time.

(415) 749-5130
FAX: (415) 928-8560
BAAQMD homepage: www.baaqmd.gov
# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF DISTRICT MEETINGS

## JULY 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF MEETING</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ROOM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Council Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Public Outreach Committee (At the Call of the Chair)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4th Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Special Meeting</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Mobile Source Committee (Meets 4th Thursday each Month)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
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## AUGUST 2011

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Regular Meeting (Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Council Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Regular Meeting (Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Mobile Source Committee (Meets 4th Thursday each Month)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4th Floor</td>
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## SEPTEMBER 2011

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<tr>
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<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Regular Meeting (Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Council Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Regular Meeting (Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors Mobile Source Committee (Meets 4th Thursday each Month)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4th Floor</td>
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BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Memorandum

To: Chairperson Blonski and
Members of the Advisory Council

From: Jack P. Broadbent
Executive Officer/APCO

Date: July 6, 2011

Re: Advisory Council’s Draft Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2011

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Approve attached draft minutes of the Regular Advisory Council’s meeting of June 8, 2011.

DISCUSSION
Attached for your review and approval are the draft minutes of the June 8, 2011 Advisory Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack P. Broadbent
Executive Officer/APCO
CALL TO ORDER

Opening Comment: Chairperson Blonski called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Ken Blonski, M.S.; Secretary Robert Bornstein, Ph.D. and Council Members Sam Altshuler, P.E., Jennifer Bard, Louise Bedsworth, Benjamin Bolles, M.S., Jeffrey Bramlett, Harold Brazil, Peter Chamberlin, Jonathan Cherry, AIA; Alexandra Desautels; John Holtzclaw, Ph.D., Kraig Kurucz; Gary Lucks, JD, CPEA, REA I; Liza Lutzker; Jane Martin, DrPh; Kendall Oku; Jonathan Ruel and Dorothy Vura-Weis, M.D., M.P.H.

Absent: Vice Chairperson Stan Hayes

Public Comment Period: There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Minutes of the May 11, 2011 Advisory Council Meeting:

Member Altshuler noted that his title was stated incorrectly on the May 11, 2011 minutes.

Council Action: Member Holtzclaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2011 Advisory Council Meeting, with the correction as noted; Member Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously without objection.
PRESENTATION: ULTRAFINE PARTICLES

2. Ultrafine Particles: Sources and Characteristics

A. Mobile Source Ultrafine Particle Emissions: Past, Present and Future

Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, Jean Roggenkamp, introduced speaker Dr. Barbara Zielinska and offered the following biographical information about Dr. Zielinska:

Dr. Zielinska is a Research Professor at the Desert Research Institute, Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Reno, Nevada and the Director, of the Organic Analytical Laboratory.

Dr. Zielinska has been working in the field of organic analysis for over 30 years. She has extensive experience in development of measurement methods for organic compounds in both gas and particle phases in ambient air. She has also developed analytical methods for identifying biologically active compounds in primary and secondary particulate organic matter, kinetics and products of gas-phase reactions. She has published numerous articles on emissions sources of organics in the gas and particle phases, including leading edge work in diesel particulate matter emissions and secondary particle formation. She has served on the US EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Council (CASAC) that provides scientific guidance to Congress and is currently a member of the CASAC Ambient Air Monitoring and Methods Subcommittee.

Dr. Zielinska earned her M.Sc. in Chemistry at the Technical University of Lodz, Poland and Ph.D. in Chemistry from the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Zielinska gave her presentation to the Advisory Council. The power point presentation is attached to these minutes for further detail. Dr. Zielinska explained past scientific methods and results of measuring ultrafine particulate matter. She reviewed studies of emissions from gasoline and diesel engines, and showed comparisons of emissions that occur related to driving speed, load and temperature. She discussed particle size, composition and distribution for a variety of fuel types and engines.

Dr. Zielinska presented results from the Advanced Collaborative Emissions Study (ACES) which looked at four engine types and compared emissions against past standards to show improvements in emissions technology since 1998. The results showed significant decreases in regulated particulate matter (PM), carbon monoxide (CO), and non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHC) emissions, close to 90% or greater below the 2007 standard; and nitrogen oxide (NOx) was 10% below the standard. Comparisons between a 2004 engine and a 2007 engine showed decreases in unregulated emissions of between 71 – 99%.

Dr. Zielinska affirmed that the concentrations and spatial variations in the diesel particulate matter (DPM) estimated from the West Oakland Monitoring Study (WOMS) data were
consistent with the adjusted modeled results from the California Air Resources Board (ARB) and the Air District’s health risk assessment.

Dr. Zielinska talked about the Health Effects Institute (HEI) studies performed using the EUPHORE photo-reactor located in Valencia, Spain. The HEI Special Committee on Emerging Technologies produced a report titled “The Future of Vehicle Fuels and Technologies: Anticipated Health Benefits and Challenges” that discussed promising new technologies such as engine modification and exhaust aftertreatment, as well as electric drive technologies and new fuels for the future of emissions reductions.

Dr. Zielinska discussed her answers to the questions posed by the Advisory Council prior to her appearance. She stated that ultrafine particles (UFP) can originate from anthropogenic sources (i.e. direct motor vehicle emissions) and from biogenic sources (secondary organic aerosol (SOA) from terpenes/ sesquiterpenes emissions). She assessed that ambient UFP standards are difficult to enforce, as biogenic SOA is not controllable, and a UFP standard on motor vehicle emissions would be more effective and easier to implement. Dr. Zielinska discussed the European standard for UFP, based on the number of particles, will be phased in for all diesel vehicles in 2011 and fully in place in 2013; and will be extended to all gasoline vehicles in 2014 with full implementation in 2015. She stated the European Particulate Measurement Program (PMP) includes solid particles only, down to 23 nm in size, and debate continues regarding whether volatile particles should be included.

Dr. Zielinska noted elevated concentrations of UFP have been observed near major roadways in many studies and the exponential decay of particle number concentrations was observed with increasing distance from the roadways. She stated that the Environmental Protection Agency is developing guidance for expanded monitoring capability, and the main pollutants recommended for monitoring were nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), nitrogen monoxide (NO), nitrogen oxide (NOx), black carbon, carbon monoxide (CO), ultra-fine particles (UFP), particle-size distribution, particulate matter between 10 microns and 2.5 microns (PM₁₀₋₂.₅), particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less (PM₂.₅), elemental carbon (EC), organic carbon (OC), carbon dioxide (CO₂), ozone (O₃), total reactive nitrogen (NOy), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene (BTEX).

Dr. Zielinska concluded her presentation and Advisory Council members held their questions until after the second presentation was completed.
B. Physical, Chemical and Toxicological Properties of Ambient Ultrafine Particles and their Sources

Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, Jean Roggenkamp, introduced speaker Anthony S. Wexler, Ph.D. and offered the following biographical information about Dr. Wexler:

Anthony S. Wexler, Ph.D. is a Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Land, Air and Water Resources at UC Davis; and Director, Air Quality Research Center, Crocker Nuclear Laboratory and EPA’s San Joaquin Valley Aerosol Health Effects Research Center at UC Davis.

Dr. Wexler has worked on the atmospheric transport and transformation of airborne particles for over 20 years. Currently, he is investigating how early childhood exposure may lead to lung function decrements, where particles deposit in the airways, the thermodynamic properties of organic and inorganic compounds in the atmosphere, ion mobility spectrometry for aerosol chemical composition analysis, and source-oriented sampling of ambient particles. Dr. Wexler has developed new equipment for analyzing nanoparticles in air and has participated in multiple Environmental Protection Agency projects to measure air quality impacts in selected cities including Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Houston, Texas; and Fresno, California.

Dr. Wexler earned his B.S. in Engineering Physics at UC Berkeley, an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at California Institute of Technology. Dr. Wexler gave his presentation to the Advisory Council and focused on roadway particle dynamics, source-oriented sampling and toxicity, and the disruption in lung growth after juvenile exposure to ozone and particles. The power point presentation is attached to these minutes for further detail.

Dr. Wexler stated that health effects are connected to emissions and roadway particles cause health concerns for children growing up near freeways. Children may be uniquely susceptible because their lungs are developing, and studies show lung function deficits, and increased asthma. He added that freeway emissions contain fresh combustion emissions, close to populations, and road and tire wear dust are part of those emissions.

Dr. Wexler explained the event chain of roadway emissions, starting with hot tailpipe emissions in particle and gas phases, then the tailpipe-to-roadway dilution which includes rapid cooling and reduction of vapor pressure, and then the roadway-to-community dilution.

Dr. Wexler concluded that particle composition and size was similar on the roadway and far from the roadway, near the roadway particles are larger and have more organic content. He stated that the health impacts depend on the composition and toxicity of the condensing organics and whether they are more or less toxic in the gas and particles phases. Studies show impacts of...
near roadway exposure but do not conclusively define the specific cause, whether it is the high concentration of particles, size or composition, or the concentrations of course material.

Dr. Wexler discussed ways to deduce health effects from different sources using source oriented sampling. He showed results of source oriented sampling collected in Fresno using 10 high-volume ChemVol samplers assigned to different sources. He presented data on particle classes, source combinations and single particle summary statistics.

Dr. Wexler discussed his research about lung growth and his study of rats exposed to high levels of ozone, and how that relates to disruption in lunch growth for children. Results suggested that ozone was more damaging than PM for lung development.

Dr. Wexler explained the use of the Rapid Single-ultrafine-particle Mass Spectrometer (RSMS-III) in his research and the methods of collection of data and the parameters.

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

**3. Ultrafine particles: Sources and Characteristics**

Council members discussed the findings with both of the speakers. Topics discussed included: health concerns for truck drivers, and comparing occupational roadway exposure with community exposure. Dr. Zielinska responded to a question regarding her recommendations for UFP standards by stating regulating is best done at the source, that Europe has limits of 23 nm for PM and regulations should include semi-volatile organics and PM. Dr. Wexler noted regulations are motivated by health effects and climate change, and UFP is mostly having effect on cardiovascular systems but little is known about the pathway.

Council members asked questions about infill and transit oriented housing near freeways, mitigation measures and standards. Both speakers stated that 300 meters was a preferable buffer distance to minimize exposure for housing and schools, noting that studies show children who live within 300 meters have health effects from exposure. Dr. Zielinska stated that although there are sources of indoor PM, such as cooking, they are not the same toxicity as PM from fuel combustion, and said it was important to know the source of the PM. The speakers explained high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters are effective, as is air conditioning but both methods require energy; barriers around freeways disrupt the flow of air and reduce exposure.

There was discussion about the Dr. Wexler’s research with rats, including the levels of ozone exposure, the standards used when doing testing, and the findings.

Lubrication oil in vehicles was discussed as a source of black smoke; particles can be tested to determine the signature of lubricant oil and gross polluters are a large part of the problem.
Planning Division Modeling Manager, Saffret Tanrikulu addressed the Advisory Council and updated the members about exposure studies and inventory being planned, and monitoring currently performed by the Air District.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were discussed and Dr. Zilenska stated PAHs are hazardous air pollutants and on the toxics list; they are found in wood smoke, combustion from gas, diesel and lube oil and some are specific to biomass burning.

The speakers were asked what they felt was the biggest challenge in the UFP area. Dr. Wexler replied that measurement was important, and controlling emissions by particle number was preferred. Dr. Zielinska added that UFP is emitted from all kinds of engines, but newer engines decrease the number.

OTHER BUSINESS

4. Council Member Comments / Other Business

Member Lucks said that he would present a regulatory primer on air quality law during the next Advisory Council meeting. The presentation will be placed on the agenda and begin around 11:00 a.m.

5. Next meeting: The next meeting of the Advisory Council will be held on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at 939 Ellis Streets, San Francisco, CA 94109.

6. Adjournment: Chair Blonski adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Kris Perez Krow
Clerk of the Boards

Attachments:

A. Mobile Source Ultrafine Particle Emissions: Past, Present and Future
B. Physical, Chemical and Toxicological Properties of Ambient Ultrafine Particles and their Sources

Please note: Attachments are part of the recorded minutes, but will not be included in the packet for the July 13, 2011 Advisory Council meeting.
AGENDA: 2

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Memorandum

To: Chairperson Ken Blonski and
Members of the Advisory Council

From: Jack P. Broadbent, Executive Officer

Date: July 6, 2011

Re: Discussion of Draft Report on the Advisory Council’s June 8, 2011 Meeting
on Ultrafine Particles: Sources and Characteristics

The attached draft report on the June 8, 2011 Advisory Council Meeting on Ultrafine
Particles: Sources and Characteristics was prepared by Advisory Council members Sam
Altshuler, Harold Brazil, Ben Bolles and Robert Bornstein.

The draft report will be discussed by the Advisory Council at its July 13, 2011 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack P. Broadbent
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: Gary Kendall
Reviewed by: Jean Roggenkamp
AGENDA: 2

DRAFT REPORT ON THE JUNE 8, 2011 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING ON ULTRAFINE PARTICULES: SOURCES AND CHARACTERISTICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE ADVISORY COUNCIL AT THE JULY 13, 2011 MEETING

SUMMARY

The following presentations were made at the June 8, 2011 Advisory Council meeting on Ultrafine Particles: Sources and Characteristics:

1. **Mobile Source Ultrafine Particle Emissions: Past, Present and Future** by Barbara Zielinska, Ph.D., Research Professor, Desert Research Institute, Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Reno, Nevada and Director, Organic Analytical Laboratory, DRI. Dr. Zielinska has been working in the field of organic analysis for over 30 years. She has extensive experience in development of measurement methods for organic compounds in both gas and particle phases in ambient air. She has also developed analytical methods for identifying biologically active compounds in primary and secondary particulate organic matter, kinetics, and products of gas-phase reactions. She has published numerous articles on emissions sources of organics in the gas and particle phases, including leading edge work in diesel particulate matter emissions and secondary particle formation. She has served on the US EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Council (CASAC), which provides scientific guidance to Congress and she is currently a member of the CASAC Ambient Air Monitoring and Methods Subcommittee. She earned her M.Sc. in Chemistry at the Technical University of Lodz, Poland and her Ph.D. in Chemistry from the Polish Academy of Sciences.

2. **Physical, Chemical and Toxicological Properties of Ambient Ultrafine Particles and their Sources** by Anthony Wexler, Ph.D., Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Land, Air and Water Resources, UC Davis and Director, Air Quality Research Center, Crocker Nuclear Laboratory and EPA's San Joaquin Valley Aerosol Health Effects Research Center, UC Davis. Dr. Wexler has worked on the atmospheric transport and transformation of airborne particles for over 20 years. Currently, he is investigating how early childhood exposure may lead to lung function decrements, where particles are deposited in airways, the thermodynamic properties of organic and inorganic compounds in the atmosphere, ion mobility spectrometry for aerosol chemical composition analysis, and source-oriented sampling of ambient particles. Dr. Wexler has developed new equipment for analyzing nanoparticles in air and has participated in multiple US EPA projects to measure air quality impacts in selected cities, including Pittsburgh, Pa., Houston, TX, and Fresno, CA. He earned his B.S. in Engineering Physics at UC Berkeley, an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at California Institute of Technology.
DISCUSSION MEETING

At the July 13, 2011 meeting, the Council discussed the presentations, materials received at the June 8, 2011 meeting, and the draft report on that meeting.

KEY POINTS

Dr. Barbara Zielinska

- New diesels (2007 and newer) with filters have such low mass PM emissions, i.e., 99% lower than the 1998 standard, as well as lower particle counts, that they over achieved the 2007 emissions standard. Diesels with retrofit traps also have low PM emissions. NOx controls were also implemented in 2010 diesels.
- Old, un-retrofitted diesels emit 10 times as much PAH as gasoline engines.
- Oil burner gasoline engines are gross polluters and are thus significant sources of UFP. UFP emissions attributable to lube oil include: the oil itself, oil additives (e.g., ZDDP, sulfur compounds), and PAHs. Changing lube oil frequently reduces the potential to emit PAHs from lube oil burners.
- Standards or regulations should focus on emission magnitudes (i.e., numbers of UFP > 23 nm), rather than on an AAQS, as is the European approach.
- Understanding the state (i.e., gas, liquid, solid) of the UFP is challenging, as ambient temperature affects the state, and particles are dynamic and change in state and size (i.e., grow or shrink) over time, space, and temperature.

Dr. Anthony Wexler

- Exposure of children, with their developing lungs, is a concern when they are exposed to UFP and ozone. Rats exposed to ozone showed measureable and significant reductions in lung function, while exposure to PM did not show the same results. While we were not given the concentrations or the nature of the PM that the rats were exposed to, test ozone levels were 500 ppb, i.e., five times the AAQS.
- On freeway, road tunnel, and near freeway exposure to UFP is most important and potentially harmful to health.
- Most lubricating oil comes out of tail pipes volatilized, as unburned and unhealthy semi-volatile, organic carbon (OC).
- The methodology to trace the source of PM by elemental analysis and time sequence sampling that is used in field research studies is expensive and complicated.
EMERGING ISSUES FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

1. BAAQMD programs to remove old vehicles (both gasoline and diesel) via TFCA funds are effective in targeting significant PM sources. Targeting gross polluters (i.e., lube oil burners) also is efficient.

2. UFP emissions standards (i.e., particle count) are preferable to AAQS.

3. Observations show that ultrafine PM is significantly high near freeways. New development projects within this zone need to be monitored and reviewed closely, depending on the projected use of such facilities (e.g., long or short term exposures) and on the use of the facility by sensitive populations (e.g., young, old, asthmatics, sick).

4. Pending ambient monitoring for UFP by the Air District needs to be reviewed by the Advisory Council in light of recent information provided to the Council. Questions include: How does the program integrate with the District’s ongoing modeling on the 4 and 1 km grid-cell scales? Is their monitoring to determine population exposure to UFP or to describe emission sources (i.e., freeways)?

ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following Advisory Council recommendations to the Board are based on the above presentations and on subsequent discussions among Advisory Council members. The Air District should:

1. Continue efforts to remove or retrofit older diesels (via the TFCA program) and to remove gross polluting, oil burning gasoline automobiles.

2. Lobby BAR to modify the SMOG check program to identify lube oil burners, so that they can be targeted for repair or removal. Develop recommendations about lube oil (re frequency change, synthetic or non-synthetic) to reduce UFP emissions.

3. Develop recommendations concerning the location of schools, day care centers, athletic fields, and other places congregating children within 300 meters of highways and major roadways. Impacts on the elderly (in homes, housing, and care facilities) need to also be considered. Meteorology (especially prevailing wind directions) needs to be considered.

4. The Advisory Council wants to review BAAQMD UFP monitoring and modeling plans.

5. Be mindful of potential unintended consequences concerning UFP issues, e.g., massive use of HVAC to reduce indoor UFP may result in increased greenhouse gas emissions from electric power plants.