

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT Identifying Areas with Cumulative Impacts from Air Pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area: Version 2 Final Report

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- Review updated method
- Review comments received on the draft methodology report

Identifying Areas with Cumulative Impacts from Air Pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area







## Why Update Maps?

- Same goal as before:
  - Focus actions/engagement where most needed
- Use latest data
- Consider additional air pollutants

   In addition to toxics: fine particles and ozone
- Use new methods
  - Estimate health outcomes from air pollution
  - Use health records to reflect vulnerability

# New Method for Identifying Cumulative Impacts

Considers air pollution levels and community health



# Cumulative Impacts from Multiple Factors



- Increased cancer risk
- Increased death rate
- Increased health costs
- Considers health records in each zip code
- Cumulative impacts higher where combined factors overlap

## **Mapping Impacted Areas**



- Map areas with greatest impact
- Develop boundaries to encompass areas with highest impacts
- Consider where emissions are also high
- Use major roadways, geographical features to form boundaries

## **Update to Cumulative Impact Areas**





#### **Questions & Comments on the Method**

- Has the Air District/Task Force shifted their focus away from race considerations to health considerations only? If so, why?
- Add more discussion of why socio-economic factors were not used.
- The version-2 method is an improvement because it ties the identification of impacted communities more directly to the health impacts of air pollution.

#### Questions & Comments on the Method (2)

- What impacts does age adjustment have? Can alternatives be explored to address the greater sensitivity of youth to asthma from air pollution?
- Why use the top 15% of the pollution vulnerability index? Why the top 25% of emissions?
- State what the health impacts of particulate matter (PM) are relative to the impacts of ozone.
  - For health costs, PM represents about 90% of the impacts compared to 10% from ozone.
  - For mortality, PM represents about 95% of the impacts compared to 5% from ozone.

#### **Question on Characterizing Impacted Areas**

- Add more discussion of why the maps change (version 1 to version 2).
- In comparing to CalEnviroScreen, note the different purposes of the maps.
- How many people live in the impacted areas?
  - For version 1: About 1.8 million or 24% of Bay Area population.\*
- For version 2: 2.2 million or 29% of Bay Area population.\*
   \*2010 US Census

#### Comments & Questions on Uses of the Maps

- Where are the policies that apply to impacted areas?
- Apply stricter regulations in impacted areas.
- Continue to address race and other socio-economic factors in actions to reduce impacts, even though the method does not use socio-economic factors.
- Mitigations for climate change were not discussed.

## Impacts from Episodes of Higher Air Pollution



### **Uses of Maps**



- Cumulative impact maps support and focus localized mitigation activities
  - Clean Air Communities Initiative
- Exceedance maps support and focus regional mitigation activities
  - Clean Air Plan policies and programs
  - Identify and reduce upwind sources of precursor emissions
  - Public outreach

### **Reducing Health Impacts**

- Prioritize grant funding
- Focus outreach and education
- Focus enforcement activities
- Coordinate planning efforts
- Develop regulations targeted to source categories
- Prioritize local-scale measurement and modeling studies

