



BAY AREA  
AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT

California Environmental Quality Act

# Air Quality Guidelines



Updated May 2012





## California Environmental Quality Act

# Air Quality Guidelines

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**The following updates were made in May 2012 to the May 2011 CEQA Guidelines:**

The Air District's June 2010 adopted thresholds of significance were challenged in a lawsuit. On March 5, 2012 the Alameda County Superior Court issued a judgment finding that the Air District had failed to comply with CEQA when it adopted the thresholds. The court found that the adoption of the thresholds was a project under CEQA and ordered the Air District to examine whether the thresholds would have a significant impact on the environment under CEQA before recommending their use. The court did not determine whether the thresholds are or are not based on substantial evidence and thus valid on the merits. The court issued a writ of mandate ordering the District to set aside the thresholds and cease dissemination of them until the Air District had complied with CEQA. The court's order permits the Air District to develop and disseminate these CEQA Guidelines, as long as they do not implement the thresholds of significance.

In light of the court's order, all references of the Air District's June 2010 adopted thresholds, including related screening criteria, have been removed from the CEQA Guidelines.



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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	micrograms per cubic meter
AB	Assembly Bill
AB 1807	Tanner Air Toxics Act
AB 2588	Air Toxics Hot Spots Information and Assessment Act of 1987
ABAG	Association of Bay Area Governments
AMS	American Meteorological Society
APS	Alternative Planning Strategy
AQP	Air Quality Plan
ARB	California Air Resources Board
ATCM	air toxics control measures
BAAQMD	Bay Area Quality Management District
BACT	Best Available Control Technology
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CCA	Community Choice Aggregation
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CALINE4	California Line Source Dispersion Model
CAP	criteria air pollutants
CARE	Community Air Risk Evaluation
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCAR	California Climate Action Registry
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CalRecycle	The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (formally the California Integrated Waste Management Board)
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon
CH <sub>4</sub>	methane
CHAPIS	Community Health Air Pollution Information System
CO	carbon monoxide
CO Protocol	Carbon Monoxide Protocol
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
CO <sub>2</sub> e	carbon dioxide equivalent
CRA	California Resources Agency



DOE	Department of Energy
Du	dwelling units
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMFAC	On-Road Mobile-Source Emission Factors
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FAR	Floor Area Ratio
FCAA	Federal Clean Air Act
FCAAA	Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990
GHG	greenhouse gas(es)
GRP	General Reporting Protocol
GVW	gross vehicle weight
GWP	global warming potential
H <sub>2</sub> S	hydrogen sulfide
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Arresting (filter)
HI	Hazard Index
HRA	health risk assessment
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning System
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISR	Indirect Source Review
Ksf	thousand square feet
Kwh	Kilowatt hour
lb/acre-day	pound per disturbed acre per day
lb/day	pounds per day
lb/kwh	pounds per kilowatt hour
LCFS	Low-Carbon Fuel Standard
LVW	loaded vehicle weight
MACT	maximum available control technology
Mg	million gallons
MMT	million metric tons
Mph	miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organizations
MT	metric tons
MTC	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
N <sub>2</sub> O	nitrous oxide
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards



NESHAP	national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants
NH <sub>3</sub>	mercaptan, ammonia
NOA	Naturally Occurring Asbestos
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of nitrogen
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
OPR	Governor's Office of Planning and Research
PM	particulate matter
PM <sub>10</sub>	respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 10 micrometers or less
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less
ppm	parts per million
PUC	Public Utilities Commission
RoadMod	Roadway Construction Emissions Model
ROG	reactive organic gases
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SB	Senate Bill
SCS	Sustainable Communities Strategy
SF <sub>6</sub>	sulfur hexafluoride
SFBAAB	San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SMAQMD	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SP	Service Population
SSIM	Sustainable Systems Integration Model
TAC	toxic air contaminant
T-BACT	Toxic Best Available Control Technology
TBPs	Toxic Best Practices
tpy	tons per year
UC	University of California
URBEMIS	Urban Land Use Emissions Model
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VT	vehicle trips
yd <sup>3</sup>	cubic yards
yr	Year



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1. PURPOSE OF GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD or District) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines is to assist lead agencies in evaluating air quality impacts of projects and plans proposed in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB). The Guidelines provides BAAQMD-recommended procedures for evaluating potential air quality impacts during the environmental review process consistent with CEQA requirements. These revised Guidelines supersede the BAAQMD's previous CEQA guidance titled *BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines: Assessing the Air Quality Impacts of Projects and Plans* (BAAQMD 1999).

Land development plans and projects have the potential to generate harmful air pollutants that degrade air quality and increase local exposure. The Guidelines contain instructions on how to evaluate, measure, and mitigate air quality impacts generated from land development construction and operation activities. The Guidelines focus on criteria air pollutant, greenhouse gas (GHG), toxic air contaminant, and odor emissions generated from plans or projects.

The Guidelines are intended to help lead agencies navigate through the CEQA process. The Guidelines offer step-by-step procedures for a thorough environmental impact analysis of adverse air emissions due to land development in the Bay Area.

#### 1.1.1. BAAQMD's Role in Air Quality

BAAQMD is the primary agency responsible for assuring that the National and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS and CAAQS, respectively) are attained and maintained in the Bay Area. BAAQMD's jurisdiction includes all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, and the southern portions of Solano and Sonoma counties, as shown in Figure 1-1. The Air District's responsibilities in improving air quality in the region include: preparing plans for attaining and maintaining air quality standards; adopting and enforcing rules and regulations; issuing permits for stationary sources of air pollutants; inspecting stationary sources and responding to citizen complaints; monitoring air quality and meteorological conditions; awarding grants to reduce mobile emissions; implementing public outreach campaigns; and assisting local governments in addressing climate change.

BAAQMD takes on various roles in the CEQA process, depending on the nature of the proposed project, including:

**Lead Agency** – BAAQMD acts as a lead agency when it has the primary authority to implement or approve a project, such as when it adopts air quality plans for the region, issues stationary source permits, or adopts rules and regulations.

**Responsible Agency** – BAAQMD acts as a Responsible Agency when it has limited discretionary authority over a portion of a project, but does not have the primary discretionary authority of a lead agency. As a Responsible Agency, BAAQMD may coordinate the environmental review process with the lead agency regarding BAAQMD's permitting process, provide comments to the lead agency regarding potential impacts, and recommend mitigation measures.



Source: ESRI Satellite 2009

Bay Area Air Quality Management District Jurisdictional Boundaries

Figure 1-1



**Commenting Agency** – BAAQMD may act as a Commenting Agency when it is not a Lead or Responsible Agency (i.e., it does not have discretionary authority over a project), but when it may have concerns about the air quality impacts of a proposed project or plan. As a Commenting Agency, BAAQMD may review environmental documents prepared for development proposals and plans in the region, such as local general plans, and provide comments to the lead agency regarding the adequacy of the air quality impact analysis, determination of significance, and mitigation measures proposed.

BAAQMD prepared the CEQA Guidelines to assist lead agencies in air quality analysis, as well as to promote sustainable development in the region. The CEQA Guidelines support lead agencies in analyzing air quality impacts and offers numerous mitigation measures and general plan policies to implement smart growth and transit oriented development, minimize construction emissions, and reduce population exposure to air pollution risks.

## 1.2. GUIDELINE COMPONENTS

The recommendations in the CEQA Guidelines should be viewed as minimum considerations for analyzing air quality impacts. Lead agencies are encouraged to tailor the air quality impact analysis to meet the needs of the local community and may conduct refined analysis that utilize more sophisticated models, more precise input data, innovative mitigation measures, and/or other features. The Guidelines contain the following sections:

**Introduction** – Chapter 1 provides a summary of the purpose of the Guide, and an overview of BAAQMD responsibilities.

**Determining Thresholds of Significance** – Explains process for developing thresholds of significance, based on substantial evidence, for development projects.

**Screening Criteria** – Section to be redeveloped upon adoption of future thresholds.

**Assessing and Mitigating Impacts** – Chapters 4 through 9 describe assessment methods and mitigation measures for operational-related, local community risk and hazards, local carbon monoxide (CO), odors, construction-related, and plan-level impacts.

**Appendix A** – Provides construction assessment tools

**Appendix B** – Provides detailed air quality modeling instructions

**Appendix C** – Outlines sample environmental setting information

**Appendix D** – Provides a glossary of terms used throughout this guide

### 1.2.1. How To Use The Guidelines

Lead agencies should evaluate potential air quality impacts of projects (and plans) as explained in Chapters 4 through 9. These Chapters describe how to analyze air quality impacts from criteria air pollutants, GHGs, local community risk and hazards, and odors associated with





construction activity and operations of a project or plan.

If, after proper analysis, the project or plan's air quality impacts are found to be below the significance thresholds determined by the lead agency, then the air quality impacts may be considered less than significant. If not, the lead agency should implement appropriate mitigation measures to reduce associated air quality impacts. Lead agencies are responsible for evaluating and implementing all feasible mitigation measures in their CEQA document.

The mitigated project or plan's impacts are then compared again to the lead agency's significance thresholds. If a project succeeded in mitigating its adverse air quality impacts below the corresponding thresholds, air quality impacts may be considered less than significant. If a project still exceeds the thresholds, the Air District strongly encourages the lead agency to consider project alternatives that could lessen any identified significant impact, including a no project alternative in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15126.6(e).

### **1.2.2. Early Consultation**

BAAQMD encourages local jurisdictions and project applicants to address air quality issues as early as possible in the project planning stage. Addressing land use and site design issues while a proposed project is still in the conceptual stage increases opportunities to incorporate project design features to minimize land use compatibility issues and air quality impacts. By the time a project enters the CEQA process, it is usually more costly and time-consuming to redesign the project to incorporate mitigation measures. Early consultation may be achieved by including a formal step in the jurisdiction's development review procedures or simply by discussing air quality concerns at the planning counter when a project proponent makes an initial contact regarding a proposed development. Regardless of the specific procedures a local jurisdiction employs, the objective should be to incorporate features into a project that minimize air quality impacts before significant resources (public and private) have been devoted to the project.

The following air quality considerations warrant particular attention during early consultation between Lead Agencies and project proponents:

1. land use and design measures to encourage alternatives to the automobile, conserve energy and reduce project emissions;
2. land use conflicts and exposure of sensitive receptors to odors, toxics and criteria pollutants; and,
3. applicable District rules, regulations and permit requirements.



## PART I: DETERMINING THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

### 2. THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

An analysis of environmental impacts under CEQA includes an assessment of the nature and extent of each impact expected to result from the project to determine whether the impact will be treated as significant or less than significant. CEQA gives lead agencies discretion whether to classify a particular environmental impact as significant. Ultimately, formulation of a standard or “threshold” of significance requires the lead agency to make a policy judgment about where the line should be drawn distinguishing adverse impacts it considers significant from those that are not deemed significant. This judgment must, however, be based on scientific information and other factual data to the extent possible. (State CEQA Guidelines §15064(b)).

Due to the existing court order<sup>1</sup> on the District’s adopted 2010 CEQA Thresholds of Significance, the Air District cannot recommend specific thresholds of significance for use by local governments at this time. Lead agencies will need to determine appropriate air quality thresholds to use for each project they review based on substantial evidence that they should include in the administrative record for the project. A number of resources, outlined below, are available for lead agencies as reference. Lead agencies should examine the substantial evidence in determining appropriate air quality thresholds.

#### ***Sources of Information on Potential Thresholds of Significance and Substantial Evidence Supporting the Thresholds***

Lead agencies may reference the Air District’s 1999 Thresholds of Significance available on the Air District’s website.

Lead agencies may also reference the Air District’s CEQA Thresholds Options and Justification Report developed by staff in 2009. The CEQA Thresholds Options and Justification Report, available on the District’s website, outlines substantial evidence supporting a variety of thresholds of significance. In accordance with the court order referenced above, the Air District cannot and does not endorse or recommend any of the particular thresholds outlined therein.

In addition, the following table provides additional resources for information on substantial evidence upon which a lead agency could determine a threshold of significance. The list below is not meant to be comprehensive. A lead agency should rely on substantial evidence most appropriate for the project being studied. Note that, to the extent that any of the documents cited below contain particular thresholds of significance, the District cannot and does not intend to endorse such thresholds of significance.

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<sup>1</sup> The Air District’s June 2010 adopted thresholds of significance were challenged in a lawsuit. On March 5, 2012 the Alameda County Superior Court issued a judgment finding that the Air District had failed to comply with CEQA when it adopted the thresholds. The court found that the adoption of the thresholds was a project under CEQA and ordered the Air District to examine whether the thresholds would have a significant impact on the environment under CEQA before recommending their use. The court did not determine whether the thresholds are or are not based on substantial evidence and thus valid on the merits. The court issued a writ of mandate ordering the District to set aside the thresholds and cease dissemination of them until the Air District had complied with CEQA.

Lead agencies may still rely on the Air District’s CEQA Guidelines for assistance in calculating air pollution emissions, obtaining information regarding the health impacts of air pollutants, and identifying potential mitigation measures.



Entity	Document
EPA	Air Toxics Program, <a href="http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/Airpage.nsf/webpage/Air+Toxics+Program">http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/Airpage.nsf/webpage/Air+Toxics+Program</a>
CARB	Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective (CARB 2005), available at <a href="http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/landuse.htm">http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/landuse.htm</a>
CAPCOA	CEQA and Climate Change, 2008, <a href="http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2010/05/CAPCOA-White-Paper.pdf">http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2010/05/CAPCOA-White-Paper.pdf</a>
City and County of San Francisco	San Francisco Health Code, Article 38
Antelope Valley	CEQA and Federal Conformity Guidelines, August 2011, <a href="http://www.avaqmd.ca.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=2911">http://www.avaqmd.ca.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=2911</a>
Butte County AQMD	CEQA Air Quality Handbook, January 2008, <a href="http://www.bcaqmd.org/page/_files/CEQA-Handbook-and-Appxs-08.pdf">http://www.bcaqmd.org/page/_files/CEQA-Handbook-and-Appxs-08.pdf</a>
Eastern Kern APCD	CEQA Guidelines, <a href="http://www.kernair.org/Documents/CEQA/CEQA_Guidelines%20&amp;%20Charts.pdf">http://www.kernair.org/Documents/CEQA/CEQA_Guidelines%20&amp;%20Charts.pdf</a>
Feather River AQMD	Air Quality CEQA Review, June 2010, <a href="http://www.fraqmd.org/PlanningTools.htm">http://www.fraqmd.org/PlanningTools.htm</a>
Mendocino AQMD	New MCAQMD Interim CEQA Criteria and GHG Pollutant Thresholds, 2010, <a href="http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/aqmd/pdf_files/MCAQMD_CEQA.pdf">http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/aqmd/pdf_files/MCAQMD_CEQA.pdf</a>
Mohave Desert AQMD	CEQA and Federal Conformity Guidelines, August 2011, <a href="http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=2910">http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=2910</a>
Monterey Bay	CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, 2008, <a href="http://www.mbuapcd.org/mbuapcd/pdf/mbuapcd/pdf/CEQA_full.pdf">http://www.mbuapcd.org/mbuapcd/pdf/mbuapcd/pdf/CEQA_full.pdf</a>
Sacramento	CEQA Guide to Air Quality Assessment, 2011, <a href="http://www.airquality.org/ceqa/index.shtml">http://www.airquality.org/ceqa/index.shtml</a>
San Luis Obispo	CEQA Air Quality Handbook, April 2012, <a href="http://www.slocleanair.org/business/pdf/2012/GHG/CEQA_Handbook_2012_v1.pdf">http://www.slocleanair.org/business/pdf/2012/GHG/CEQA_Handbook_2012_v1.pdf</a>
South Coast AQMD	Air Quality Analysis, <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/hdbk.html">http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/hdbk.html</a>
Tuolumne County	Air Pollution CEQA Thresholds, <a href="http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/ps/psft/V-2014624525/TCAPCD_Significance_Thresholds_2_.pdf">http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/ps/psft/V-2014624525/TCAPCD_Significance_Thresholds_2_.pdf</a>
Ventura APCD	Air Quality Assessment Guidelines, October 2003, <a href="http://www.vcapcd.org/pubs/Planning/VCAQGuidelines.pdf">http://www.vcapcd.org/pubs/Planning/VCAQGuidelines.pdf</a>



### **3. SCREENING CRITERIA**

Section to be redeveloped upon adoption of future thresholds.





## PART II: ASSESSING & MITIGATING PROJECT LEVEL IMPACTS

### 4. OPERATIONAL-RELATED IMPACTS

Operational emissions typically represent the majority of a project's air quality impacts. After a project is built, operational emissions including mobile and area sources, are anticipated to occur continuously throughout the project's lifetime. Operational-related activities, such as driving, use of landscape equipment, and wood burning, could generate emissions of criteria air pollutants, GHG, TACs, and PM. Area sources generally include fuel combustion from space and water heating, landscape maintenance equipment, and fireplaces/stoves, evaporative emissions from architectural coatings and consumer products and unpermitted emissions from stationary sources. This chapter provides recommendations for assessing and mitigating operational-related impacts for individual projects. Recommendations for assessing and mitigating operational-related impacts at the plan-level are discussed in Chapter 9. Chapter 9 also contains guidance for assessing a project's consistency with applicable air quality plans.

When calculating project emissions, lead agencies should account for reductions that would result from state, regional, and local rules and regulations. The Air District also recommends for lead agencies to consider project design features, attributes, or local development requirements as part of the project as proposed and not as mitigation measures. For example, projects that are mixed-use, infill, and/or proximate to transit service and local services, or that provide neighborhood serving commercial and retail services would have substantially lower vehicle trip rates and associated criteria pollutant and GHG emissions than what would be reflected in standard, basin-wide average URBEMIS default trip rates and emission estimates. A project specific transportation study should identify the reductions that can be claimed by projects with the above described attributes. Lead agencies may refer to the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) recently released report, *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* for guidance in estimating reductions in standard vehicle trip rates and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) that can be claimed for these land use types when no project specific transportation studies are prepared.

To estimate a project's carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions from direct and indirect emission sources, BAAQMD recommends using the BAAQMD GHG Model (BGM). The Air District developed this model to calculate GHG emissions not included in URBEMIS such as indirect emissions from electricity use and waste and direct fugitive emissions of refrigerants. The BGM is discussed in more detail in Section 4.2 below.



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#### 4.1. CRITERIA AIR POLLUTANT AND PRECURSOR EMISSIONS

##### 4.1.1. Significance Determination

###### Step 1: Emissions Quantification

If a proposed project involves the removal of existing emission sources, BAAQMD recommends subtracting the existing emissions levels from the emissions levels estimated for the new



proposed land use. This net calculation is permissible only if the existing emission sources were operational at the time that the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the CEQA project was circulated or in the absence of an NOP when environmental analysis begins, and would continue if the proposed redevelopment project is not approved. This net calculation is not permitted for emission sources that ceased to operate, or the land uses were vacated and/or demolished, prior to circulation of the NOP or the commencement of environmental analysis. This approach is consistent with the definition of baseline conditions pursuant to CEQA.

### **Land Use Development Projects**

For proposed land use development projects, BAAQMD recommends using the most current version of URBEMIS (which to date is version 9.2.4) to quantify operational-related criteria air pollutants and precursors. URBEMIS is a modeling tool initially developed by the California Air Resources Board for calculating air pollutant emissions from land use development projects. URBEMIS uses EMFAC emission factors and ITE trip generation rates to calculate ROG, NO<sub>x</sub>, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, carbon dioxide, and total vehicle trips. URBEMIS is not equipped for calculating air quality impacts from stationary sources or plans. For land use projects, URBEMIS quantifies emissions from area sources (e.g., natural gas fuel combustion for space and water heating, wood stoves and fireplace combustion, landscape maintenance equipment, consumer products, and architectural coating) and operational-related emissions (mobile sources).

Appendix B contains more detailed instructions for using URBEMIS to model operational emissions.

### **Stationary-Source Facilities**

A stationary source consists of a single emission source with an identified emission point, such as a stack at a facility. Facilities can have multiple emission point sources located on-site and sometimes the facility as a whole is referred to as a stationary source. Major stationary sources are typically associated with industrial processes, such as refineries or power plants. Minor stationary sources are typically land uses that may require air district permits, such as gasoline dispensing stations, and dry cleaning establishments. Examples of other District-permitted stationary sources include back-up diesel generators, boilers, heaters, flares, cement kilns, and other types of combustion equipment, as well as non-combustion sources such as coating or printing operations. BAAQMD is responsible for issuing permits for the construction and operation of stationary sources in order to reduce air pollution, and to attain and maintain the national and California ambient air quality standards in the SFBAAB. Newly modified or constructed stationary sources subject to Air District permitting may be required to implement Best Available Control Technology (BACT), which may include the installation of emissions control equipment or the implementation of administrative practices that would result in the lowest achievable emission rate. Stationary sources may also be required to offset their emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors to be permitted. This may entail shutting down or augmenting another stationary source at the same facility. Facilities also may purchase an emissions reduction credit to offset their emissions. Any stationary source emissions remaining after the application of BACT and offsets should be added to the indirect and area source emissions estimated above to arrive at total project emissions.

URBEMIS is not equipped to estimate emissions generated by stationary sources. Instead emissions from stationary sources should be estimated using manual calculation methods in consultation with BAAQMD. When stationary sources will be subject to BAAQMD regulations, the regulation emission limits should be used as emission factors. If BAAQMD emission limits are not applicable, alternative sources of emission factors include: [EPA AP-42 emission factors](#) for particular industrial processes, manufacturer specifications for specific equipment, throughput data (e.g., fuel consumption, rate of material feedstock input) and other specifications provided by



the project engineer. To the extent possible, BAAQMD recommends that the methodology used to estimate stationary-source emissions be consistent with calculations that would need to be performed to fulfill requirements of the permitting process and provided in the CEQA document.

**Step 2: Comparison of Unmitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Sum the estimated emissions for area, mobile, and stationary sources (if any) for each pollutant as explained above and compare the total average daily and annual emissions of each criteria pollutant and their precursors with the thresholds of significance determined by the lead agency. If daily average or annual emissions of operational-related criteria air pollutants or precursors do not exceed the thresholds, the project would result in a less than significant impact to air quality. If the quantified emissions of operational-related criteria air pollutants or precursors do exceed project thresholds, the proposed project would result in a significant impact to air quality and CEQA requires implementation of all feasible mitigation measures.

**Step 3: Mitigation Measures and Emission Reductions**

Where operational-related emissions exceed project thresholds, lead agencies are responsible for implementing all feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project's air quality impacts. Section 4.4 contains numerous examples of mitigation measures and associated emission reductions that may be applied to projects. The project's mitigated emission estimates from mitigation measures included in the proposed project or recommended by the lead agency should be quantified and disclosed in the CEQA document.

**Step 4: Comparison of Mitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Compare the total average daily and annual amounts of mitigated criteria air pollutants and precursors with the project thresholds. If the implementation of mitigation measures, including off-site mitigation, would reduce all operational-related criteria air pollutants and precursors to levels below the project thresholds, the impact to air quality would be reduced to a less than significant level. Implementation of mitigation measures means that they are made conditions of project approval and included in a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP). If mitigated levels of any criteria air pollutant or precursor would still exceed the project thresholds, the impact to air quality would remain significant and unavoidable.



**Table 4-1  
Example Operational Criteria Air Pollutant and Precursor Emissions Analysis**

Step	Emissions Source	Emissions (lb/day or tpy)*			
		ROG	NO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
2	Area Sources	A	A	A	A
	Mobile Sources	B	B	B	B
	Stationary Sources	C	C	C	C
	Total Unmitigated Emissions	A + B + C = D	A + B + C = D	A + B + C = D	A + B + C = D
3	Unmitigated Emissions Exceed Project Threshold?	Is D > Threshold? (If Yes, significant. Go to step 4. If No, less than significant)			
4	Mitigated Emissions	E	E	E	E
5	Mitigated Emissions Exceed Project Threshold?	Is E > Threshold? (If Yes, significant and unavoidable. If No, less than significant with mitigation incorporated)			

\* Letters "A", "B", and "C" are used to represent numeric values that would be obtained through modeling for area and mobile sources, and by manual calculations for stationary source-emissions. "D" represents the sum of "A", "B", and "C" (i.e., unmitigated emissions). "E" represents mitigated emissions.  
 Notes: lb/day = pounds per day; NO<sub>x</sub> = oxides of nitrogen; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less; PM<sub>10</sub> = respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 10 micrometers or less; ROG = reactive organic gases; tpy = tons per year.

## 4.2. GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACTS

### 4.2.1. Significance Determination

#### Step 1: Emissions Quantification

For quantifying a project's GHG emissions, BAAQMD recommends that all GHG emissions from a project be estimated, including a project's direct and indirect GHG emissions from operations. Direct emissions refer to emissions produced from onsite combustion of energy, such as natural gas used in furnaces and boilers, emissions from industrial processes, and fuel combustion from mobile sources. Indirect emissions are emissions produced offsite from energy production and water conveyance due to a project's energy use and water consumption. See Table 4-2 for a list of GHG emission sources and types that should be estimated for projects.

Emissions should be estimated in terms of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e), a metric that accounts for the emissions from various greenhouse gases based on their global warming potential. For example, one ton of methane has the same contribution to the greenhouse effect as 23 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, methane is a much more potent GHG than CO<sub>2</sub>. Expressing emissions in CO<sub>2</sub>e considers the contributions of all GHG emissions to the greenhouse effect.





Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions should not be included in the quantification of GHG emissions for a project. Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions result from materials that are derived from living cells, as opposed to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions derived from fossil fuels, limestone and other materials that have been transformed by geological processes. Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> contains carbon that is present in organic materials that include, but are not limited to, wood, paper, vegetable oils, animal fat, and food, animal and yard waste.

If a lead agency applies different thresholds for permitted stationary sources and operational emissions then these two emission sources should be calculated separately. For example, if a proposed project anticipates having a permitted stationary source on site, such as a back-up generator, the GHG emissions from the generator should not be added to the project's total emissions. The generator's GHG emissions should be calculated separately and compared to the lead agency's GHG threshold for stationary sources to determine its impact level.

If a proposed project involves the removal of existing emission sources, BAAQMD recommends subtracting the existing emissions levels from the emissions levels estimated for the new proposed land use. This net calculation is permissible only if the existing emission sources were operational at the time that the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the CEQA project was circulated (or in the absence of an NOP when environmental analysis begins), and would continue if the proposed redevelopment project is not approved. This net calculation is not permitted for emission sources that ceased to operate, or the land uses were vacated and/or demolished, prior to circulation of the NOP or the commencement of environmental analysis. This approach is consistent with the definition of baseline conditions pursuant to CEQA.

**BAAQMD Greenhouse Gas Model**

BAAQMD's preferred method for quantifying GHG emissions from a project is to use the BAAQMD GHG Model (BGM). The Air District developed this model to calculate GHG emissions not included in URBEMIS such as indirect emissions from electricity use and waste and direct fugitive emissions of refrigerants. BGM quantifies different types of GHG emissions in terms of CO<sub>2</sub>e and contains a broad range of GHG reduction strategies that may be applied to projects. BGM also adjusts for state regulations, specifically California's low carbon fuel rules and Pavley regulations.

To use BMG, a project must first be inputted into URBEMIS and then imported into BGM. When using URBEMIS, the same detailed guidance as described for criteria air pollutants should be followed for inputting proposed land use developments. BGM is available for free and

may be downloaded at: <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>. BGM is run using Microsoft Excel. Refer to the BGM user's manual for detailed instructions on using the model.

Table 4-2 outlines the recommended methodologies for estimating a project's GHG emissions.

<b>Table 4-2 Guidance for Estimating a Project's Operations GHG Emissions</b>			
<b>Emission Source</b>	<b>Emission Type</b>	<b>GHG</b>	<b>Methodology</b>
Area Sources (natural gas, hearth, landscape fuel, etc.)	Direct - natural gas and fuel combustion	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	URBEMIS and BGM
Transportation	Direct - fuel combustion	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	URBEMIS and BGM
Electricity consumption	Indirect - electricity	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	BGM



Emission Source	Emission Type	GHG	Methodology
Solid waste landfill (non-biogenic emissions)*	Direct – landfill	CH <sub>4</sub>	BGM
Solid waste transport	Indirect - fuel combustion	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	BGM
Water consumption	Indirect - electricity	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	BGM
Wastewater (non-biogenic emissions)*	Indirect - electricity	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	BGM
Industrial process emissions	Direct	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, and refrigerants	BGM and BAAQMD permits**
Fugitive emissions	Direct	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, and refrigerants	BGM
Loss of trees/vegetation	Loss of sequestration	CO <sub>2</sub>	BGM

\* Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions should not be included in the quantification of GHG emissions for a project.  
 \*\* Industrial processes permitted by the Air District must use the methodology provided in BAAQMD rules and regulations. Other industrial process emissions, such as commercial refrigerants, should use the BGM.

CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide), CH<sub>4</sub> (methane), N<sub>2</sub>O (nitrous oxides), and refrigerants (HFCs and PFCs).

In cases where users may need to estimate a project’s GHG emissions manually, BAAQMD recommends using ARB’s most current Local Government Operations Protocol (LGOP) as appropriate for guidance. The most current LGOP may be downloaded from ARB’s website.

**Step 2: Comparison of Unmitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Sum the estimated GHG emissions from area and mobile sources for the build-out year and compare the total annual GHG emissions with the project threshold determined by the lead agency. If annual emissions of operational-related GHGs do not exceed the threshold, the project would result in a less than significant impact to global climate change. If annual emissions do exceed the threshold, the proposed project would result in a significant impact to global climate change and will require mitigation measures for emission reductions.

**Step 3: Mitigation Measures and Emission Reductions**

Where operational-related emissions exceed project thresholds, lead agencies are responsible for implementing all feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project’s GHG emissions. Section 4.4 contains recommended mitigation measures. The air quality analysis should quantify the reduction of emissions associated with any proposed mitigation measures and include this information in the CEQA document.

**Step 4: Comparison of Mitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Compare the total annual amount of mitigated GHGs with the project threshold, as demonstrated in Table 4-3. If the implementation of project proposed or required mitigation measures would reduce GHG emissions below the project thresholds, the impact would be reduced to a less than significant level. If mitigated levels still exceed the project thresholds, the impact to global climate change would be considered significant and unavoidable.



**Table 4-3  
Example of Operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis**

Step	Emissions Source	Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/yr)*
2	Area Sources	A
	Mobile Sources	B
	Indirect Sources	C
	Total Unmitigated Emissions	A + B + C = D
3	Unmitigated Emissions Exceed Project Threshold?	Is D > Threshold? (If Yes, significant. Go to step 4. If No, less than significant)
4	Mitigated Emissions	E
5	Mitigated Emissions Exceed Project Threshold?	Is E > Threshold? (If Yes, significant and unavoidable. If No, less than significant with mitigation incorporated)

\* Letters "A", "B", and "C" are used to represent numeric values that would be obtained through modeling for area and mobile sources, and by manual calculations for indirect source-emissions. "D" represents the sum of "A", "B", and "C" (i.e., unmitigated emissions). "E" represents mitigated emissions.  
Notes: CO<sub>2</sub>e = carbon dioxide equivalent; MT = metric tons; yr = year.

### 4.3. GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION STRATEGIES

Local governments may consider adopting a climate action plan that is consistent the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15183.5 (see text in box below).

*§15183.5. Tiering and Streamlining the Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.*

*(a) Lead agencies may analyze and mitigate the significant effects of greenhouse gas emissions at a programmatic level, such as in a general plan, a long range development plan, or a separate plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Later project-specific environmental documents may tier from and/or incorporate by reference that existing programmatic review. Project-specific environmental documents may rely on an EIR containing a programmatic analysis of greenhouse gas emissions as provided in section 15152 (tiering), 15167 (staged EIRs) 15168 (program EIRs), 15175-15179.5 (Master EIRs), 15182 (EIRs Prepared for Specific Plans), and 15183 (EIRs Prepared for General Plans, Community Plans, or Zoning).*

*(b) Plans for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Public agencies may choose to analyze and mitigate significant greenhouse gas emissions in a plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions or similar document. A plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions may be used in a cumulative impacts analysis as set forth below. Pursuant to sections 15064(h)(3) and 15130(d), a lead agency may determine that a project's incremental contribution to a cumulative effect is not cumulatively considerable if the project complies with the requirements in a previously adopted plan or mitigation program under specified circumstances.*

*(1) Plan Elements. A plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions should:*

*(A) Quantify greenhouse gas emissions, both existing and projected over a specified time period, resulting from activities within a defined geographic area;*



*(B) Establish a level, based on substantial evidence, below which the contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from activities covered by the plan would not be cumulatively considerable;*

*(C) Identify and analyze the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from specific actions or categories of actions anticipated within the geographic area;*

*(D) Specify measures or a group of measures, including performance standards, that substantial evidence demonstrates, if implemented on a project-by-project basis, would collectively achieve the specified emissions level;*

*(E) Establish a mechanism to monitor the plan's progress toward achieving the level and to require amendment if the plan is not achieving specified levels;*

*(F) Be adopted in a public process following environmental review*

*(2) Use with Later Activities. A plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, once adopted following certification of an EIR or adoption of an environmental document, may be used in the cumulative impacts analysis of later projects. An environmental document that relies on a greenhouse gas reduction plan for a cumulative impacts analysis must identify those requirements specified in the plan that apply to the project, and, if those requirements are not otherwise binding and enforceable, incorporate those requirements as mitigation measures applicable to the project. If there is substantial evidence that the effects of a particular project may be cumulatively considerable notwithstanding the project's compliance with the specified requirements in the plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, an EIR must be prepared for the project.*

**Standard Elements of a Climate Action Plan**

A climate action plan may be one single plan, such as a general plan or climate action plan, or could be comprised of a collection of climate action policies, ordinances and programs that have been legislatively adopted by a local jurisdiction. The climate action plan should identify goals, policies and implementation measures that would achieve GHG reduction goals for the entire community to a level, based on substantial evidence, below which the contribution of GHG emissions due to the plan would not be cumulatively considerable.

A climate action plan may consider including the following elements (corresponding to the State CEQA Guidelines Plan Elements):

**(A) Quantify greenhouse gas emissions, both existing and projected over a specified time period, resulting from activities within a defined geographic area.**

A climate action plan should include an emissions inventory that quantifies an existing baseline level of emissions and projected GHG emissions from a business-as-usual, no-plan, forecast scenario of the horizon year. The baseline year is based on the existing growth pattern defined by an existing general plan. The projected GHG emissions are based on the emissions from the existing growth pattern or general plan through to 2020, and if different, the year used for the forecast. If the forecast year is beyond 2020, BAAQMD recommends also doing a forecast for 2020 to establish a trend. The forecast does not include new growth estimates based on a new or draft general plan.

When conducting the baseline emissions inventory and forecast, ARB's business-as-usual 2020 forecasting methodology should be followed to the extent possible, including the following recommended methodology and assumptions:



- The baseline inventory should include one complete calendar year of data for 2008 or earlier. CO<sub>2</sub> must be inventoried across all sectors (residential, commercial, industrial, transportation and waste at a minimum); accounting of CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, SF<sub>6</sub>, HFC and PFC emission sources can also be included where reliable estimation methodologies and data are available.
- Business-as-usual emissions are projected in the absence of any policies or actions that would reduce emissions. The forecast should include only adopted and funded projects.
- The business-as-usual forecast should project emissions from the baseline year using growth factors specific to each of the different economic sectors.

BAAQMD's *GHG Plan Level Quantification Guidance* contains detailed recommendations for developing GHG emission inventories and projections and for quantifying emission reductions from policies and mitigation measures. This document is available at BAAQMD's website, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>.

**(B) Establish a level, based on substantial evidence, below which the contribution to GHG emissions from activities covered by the plan would not be cumulatively considerable.**

A climate action plan should establish a GHG reduction target that, based on substantial evidence, would prevent the plan from having a cumulative considerable impact to climate change.

**(C) Identify and analyze the GHG emissions resulting from specific actions or categories of actions anticipated within the geographic area.**

A climate action plan should identify and analyze GHG reductions from anticipated actions to understand the amount of reductions needed to meet its target. Anticipated actions refer to local and state policies and regulations that may be planned or adopted but not implemented. For example, ARB's Scoping Plan contains a number of measures that are planned but not yet implemented. BAAQMD recommends for the plan to include an additional forecast analyzing anticipated actions. Element (C), together with (A), is meant to identify the scope of GHG emissions to be reduced through Element (D).

**(D) Specify measures or a group of measures, including performance standards that substantial evidence demonstrates, if implemented on a project-by-project basis, would collectively achieve the specified emissions level.**

The climate action plan should include mandatory and enforceable measures that impact new development projects, such as mandatory energy efficiency standards, density requirements, transportation demand management policies, etc., as well as existing development. These measures may exist in codes or other policies and may be included in the plan by reference.

The climate action plan should include quantification of expected GHG reductions from each identified measure or categories of measures (such as residential energy efficiency measures, bike/pedestrian measures, recycling measures, etc.), including disclosure of calculation methods and assumptions. Quantification should reflect annual GHG reductions and demonstrate how the GHG reduction target will be met. The plan should specify which measures apply to new development projects. For assistance in quantifying potential GHG reductions from different mitigation measures, Lead Agencies may refer to CAPCOA's report, *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures*.

**(E) Monitor the plan's progress**



To ensure that all new development projects are incorporating all applicable measures contained within the climate action plan, the plan should include an Implementation Plan containing the following:

- Identification of which measures apply to new development projects vs. existing development, discerning between voluntary and mandatory measures.
- Mechanism for reviewing and determining if all applicable mandatory and voluntary measures are being adequately applied to new development projects.
- Identification of implementation steps and parties responsible for ensuring implementation of each action.
- Schedule of implementation identifying near-term and longer-term implementation steps.
- Procedures for monitoring and updating the GHG inventory and reduction measures every 3-5 years before 2020.
- Annual review and reporting to the jurisdiction's governing body on the progress of implementation of individual measures, including assessment of how new development projects have been incorporating climate action plan measures. Review should also include an assessment of the implementation of Scoping Plan measures in order to determine if adjustments to local plan must be made to account for any shortfalls in Scoping Plan implementation.

**(F) Be adopted in a public process following environmental review**

A climate action plan should undergo an environmental review which may include a negative declaration or EIR.

If the climate action plan consists of a number of different elements, such as a general plan, a climate action plan and/or separate codes, ordinances and policies, each element that is applicable to new development projects would have to complete an environmental review in order to allow tiering for new development projects.

**Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or Alternative Planning Strategy**

If a project is located within an adopted Sustainable Communities Strategy or Alternative Planning Strategy, the GHG emissions from cars and light duty trucks do not need to be analyzed in the environmental analysis. This approach is consistent with the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15183.5(c). This approach only applies to certain residential and mixed use projects and transit priority projects as defined in Section 21155 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Section 15183.5(c): Special Situations. As provided in Public Resources Code sections 21155.2 and 21159.28, environmental documents for certain residential and mixed use projects, and transit priority projects, as defined in section 21155, that are consistent with the general use designation, density, building intensity, and applicable policies specified for the project area in an applicable sustainable communities strategy or alternative planning strategy need not analyze global warming impacts resulting from cars and light duty trucks. A lead agency should consider whether such projects may result in GHG emissions resulting from other source, however, consistent with these Guidelines.



Section 21155: A transit priority project shall (1) contain at least 50 percent residential use, based on total building square footage and, if the project contains between 26 percent and 50 percent nonresidential uses, a floor area ratio of not less than 0.75; (2) provide a minimum net density of at least 20 dwelling units per acre; and (3) be within one-half mile of a major transit stop or high-quality transit corridor included in a regional transportation plan. A major transit stop is as defined in Section 21064.3, except that, for purposes of this section, it also includes major transit stops that are included in the applicable regional transportation plan. For purposes of this section, a high quality transit corridor means a corridor with fixed route bus service with service intervals no longer than 15 minutes during peak commute hours. A project shall be considered to be within one-half mile of a major transit stop or high-quality transit corridor if all parcels within the project have not more than 25 percent of their area farther than one-half mile from the stop or corridor and if not more than 10 percent of the residential units or 100 units, whichever is less, in the project are farther than one-half mile from the stop or corridor.

#### 4.4. MITIGATING OPERATIONAL-RELATED IMPACTS

The following mitigation measures would reduce operational-related emissions of criteria air pollutants, precursors, and GHGs from mobile, area, and stationary sources. Additional mitigation measures may be used, including off-site measures, provided their mitigation efficiency is justified. Where a range of emission reduction potential is given for a measure, the lead agency should provide justification for the mitigation reduction efficiency assumed for the project. If mitigation does not bring a project below the threshold determined by the lead agency, the project could be cumulatively significant and could be approved only with a Statement of Overriding Considerations and a showing that all feasible mitigation measures have been implemented.

Reductions from mitigation measures should be scaled proportionally to their sector of project-generated emissions. For example, if a measure would result in a 50 percent reduction in residential natural gas consumption, but only 20 percent of a project's emissions are associated with natural gas consumption, and only 10 percent of a project's emissions are from residential land uses, then the scaled reduction would equal one percent ( $50\% * 20\% * 10\% = 1\%$ ).

Once all emission reductions are scaled by their applicable sector and land use, they should be added together for the total sum of emission reductions. Once all emission reductions are scaled by their applicable sector and land use, they should be added together for the total sum of emission reductions.

The Air District prefers for project emissions to be reduced to their extent possible onsite. For projects that are not able to mitigate onsite to a level below significance, offsite mitigation measures serve as a feasible alternative. Recent State's CEQA Guidelines amendments allow for offsite measures to mitigate a project's emissions, (Section 15126.4(c)(4)).

In implementing offsite mitigation measures, the lead agency must ensure that emission reductions from identified projects are real, permanent through the duration of the project, enforceable, and are equal to the pollutant type and amount of the project impact being offset. BAAQMD recommends that offsite mitigation projects occur within the nine-county Bay Area in order to reduce localized impacts and capture potential co-benefits. Offsite mitigation for PM and toxics emission reductions should occur within a five mile radius to the project site.

Another feasible mitigation measure the Air District is exploring establishing is an offsite mitigation program to assist lead agencies and project applicants in achieving emission reductions. A project applicant would enter into an agreement with the Air District and pay into an Air District fund. The Air District would commit to reducing the type and amount of emission



identified in the agreement. The Air District would identify, implement, and manage offsite mitigation projects.

The following tables list feasible mitigation measures for consideration in projects. The estimated emission reductions are a work in progress and the Air District will continue to improve guidance on quantifying the mitigation measures.

**URBEMIS Mitigation Measures for Operational Mobile Source Emissions**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
Mix of Uses	-3% to 9%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	-3 when no housing or employment centers within 1/2 mile	Residential: % reduction is taken from base trips (9.57) and subtracted from ITE trip generation; Nonresidential: % reduction from ITE trip generation
Local serving retail within 1/2 mile of project	2%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Uses lower end of reported research to avoid double counting with mix of uses measure	
Transit Service	0% to 15%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources		
Bike & Pedestrian	0%–9%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Credit is given based on intersection density, sidewalk completeness, and bike network completeness; No reduction if entire area within 1/2 mile is single use	
Affordable Housing	0%–4%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources		
<b>Transportation Demand Management Parking, Transit Passes</b>					
Daily Parking Charge	0%–25%	CAPs, GHGs	Only resident/employee trips, no visitor/shopper trips		
Parking Cash-Out	0%–12.5%	CAPs, GHGs		Shoup, Donald. 2005. Parking Cash Out. American Planning Association. Chicago, IL.	
Free Transit Passes	25% of Transit Service Reduction	CAPs, GHGs			
<b>Telecommuting</b>					
Employee Telecommuting Program	1%–100%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources, Worker Trips only		
Compressed Work Schedule 3/36	1%–40%	CAPs, GHGs			
Compressed Work Schedule 4/40	1%–20%	CAPs, GHGs			
Compressed Work Schedule 9/80	1%–10%	CAPs, GHGs			



**URBEMIS Mitigation Measures for Operational Mobile Source Emissions**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
<b>Other Transportation Demand Measures</b>					
Secure Bike Parking (at least 1 space per 20 vehicle spaces)	At least 3 elements: 1% reduction, plus 5% of the reduction for transit and pedestrian/bike friendliness; At least 5 elements: 2% reduction, plus 10% of the reduction for transit and pedestrian/bike friendliness	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources, Worker Trips only		
Showers/Changing Facilities Provided					
Guaranteed Ride Home Program Provided					
Car-Sharing Services Provided					
Information Provided on Transportation Alternatives (Bike Schedules, Maps)					
Dedicated Employee Transportation Coordinator					
Carpool Matching Program					
Preferential Carpool/Vanpool Parking					
Parking Supply	0%–50%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources		
On Road Trucks	As input by user in URBEMIS	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources		

**URBEMIS Mitigation Measures for Operational Area-Source Emissions**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes
Increase Energy Efficiency Beyond Title 24	Same as % improvement over Title 24	CAPs, GHGs	Natural gas sector in URBEMIS for applicable land use only	User should specify baseline year for the Title 24 standards
Electrically powered landscape equipment and outdoor electrical outlets	Same as % of landscape equipment emissions	CAPs, GHGs	Landscape emissions: residential only	
Low VOC architectural coatings	Same as % VOC reduction in applicable coatings (Interior/Exterior)	ROG only	Architectural coating	



**NON-URBEMIS Energy Efficiency Mitigation Measures**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
Plant shade trees within 40 feet of the south side or within 60 feet of the west sides of properties.	30%	GHGs	R,C A/C Electricity	USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. "California Study Shows Shade Trees Reduce Summertime Electricity Use." Science Daily 7 January 2009. 20 February 2009 < <a href="http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/01/090105150831.htm">http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/01/090105150831.htm</a> >.	Electricity-related measures reduce CAPs off-site, but they are not typically quantified as part of a CEQA analysis.
Require cool roof materials (albedo >= 30)	34%	GHGs	C A/C Electricity	U.S. EPA Cool Roof Product Information, Available: < <a href="http://www.epa.gov/heatisl and/resources/pdf/CoolRoofsCompendium.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/heatisl and/resources/pdf/CoolRoofsCompendium.pdf</a> >	
	69%	GHGs	R A/C Electricity		
Install green roofs	1%	GHGs	R,C A/C Electricity	Reductions are based on the Energy & Atmosphere credits (EA Credit 2) documented in the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED), Green Building Rating System for New Constructions and Major Renovations, Version 2.2, October 2005. The reduction assumes that a vegetated roof is installed on a least 50% of the roof area or that a combination high albedo and vegetated roof surface is installed that meets the following standard: (Area of SRI Roof/0.75)+(Area of vegetated roof/0.5) >= Total Roof Area.	
Require smart meters and programmable thermostats	10%	CAPs, GHGs	R, C electricity and natural gas space heating	U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2009. Programmable Thermostat. <a href="http://www.energystar.gov/ia/new_homes/features/ProgThermostats1-17-01.pdf">http://www.energystar.gov/ia/new_homes/features/ProgThermostats1-17-01.pdf</a>	



**NON-URBEMIS Energy Efficiency Mitigation Measures**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
Meet GBC standards in all New construction	17%	GHGs	R electricity	California Energy Commission [CEC] 2007. Impact Analysis 2008 Update to the California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings	
	7%	GHGs	C electricity		
	9%	CAPs, GHGs	R natural gas		
	3%	CAPs, GHGs	C natural gas		
Retrofit existing buildings to meet CA GBC standards	38%	GHGs	R electricity	California Energy Commission [CEC] 2003. Impact Analysis 2005 Update to the California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings; California Energy Commission [CEC] 2007. Impact Analysis 2008 Update to the California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings	
	12%	GHGs	C electricity		
	18%	CAPs, GHGs	R natural gas		
	12%	CAPs, GHGs	C natural gas		
Install solar water heaters	70%	CAPs, GHGs	R natural gas water heating	Energy Star. 2009. Solar Water Heater. <a href="http://www.energystar.gov/ia/new_homes/features/WaterHtrs_062906.pdf">http://www.energystar.gov/ia/new_homes/features/WaterHtrs_062906.pdf</a> ; Department of Energy. California Energy Commission [CEC] 2007. Impact Analysis 2008 Update to the California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings	Cannot take credit for both solar and tank-less water heater measures
	70%	CAPs, GHGs	C natural gas water heating		
Install tank-less water heaters	35%	CAPs, GHGs	R natural gas water heating	Tankless Water Heater. 2008. Available: <a href="http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/water_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=12820">http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/water_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=12820</a>	
	35%	CAPs, GHGs	C natural gas water heating		
Install solar panels on residential and commercial buildings	100%	GHGs	R, C electricity		



**NON-URBEMIS Energy Efficiency Mitigation Measures**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
100% increase in diversity of land use mix	5%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Ewing, Reid, et al. 2001. <i>Travel and the Built Environment: A Synthesis</i> . Transportation Research Record 1780. Paper No. 01-3515 as cited in Urban Land Institute. 2008. <i>Growing Cooler</i> . ISBN: 978-0-87420-082-2. Washington, DC	
Jobs housing balance	$\text{Trip reduction} = (1 - (\text{ABS} (1.5 * \text{HH} - \text{E}) / (1.5 * \text{HH} + \text{E}) - 0.25) / 0.25 * 0.03;$ where ABS = absolute value; HH = study area households ; E = study area employment	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Nelson/Nygaard Consultants. 2005. <i>Crediting Low-Traffic Developments: Adjusting Site-Level Vehicle Trip Generation Using URBEMIS</i> . Pg 12, (adapted from Criterion and Fehr & Peers, 2001)	
100% increase in design (i.e., presence of design guidelines for transit oriented development, complete streets standards)	3%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Ewing, Reid, et al. 2001. <i>Travel and the Built Environment: A Synthesis</i> . Transportation Research Record 1780. Paper No. 01-3515 as cited in Urban Land Institute. 2008. <i>Growing Cooler</i> . ISBN: 978-0-87420-082-2. Washington, DC	



**NON-URBEMIS Energy Efficiency Mitigation Measures**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
100% increase in density	5%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Ewing, Reid, et al. 2001. <i>Travel and the Built Environment: A Synthesis</i> . Transportation Research Record 1780. Paper No. 01-3515 as cited in Urban Land Institute. 2008. <i>Growing Cooler</i> . ISBN: 978-0-87420-082-2. Washington, DC	
HVAC duct sealing	30%	GHGs	R,C A/C electricity	Sacramento Metropolitan Utilities District. 2008. Duct Sealing. Available: < <a href="http://www.pge.com/myhome/saveenergymoney/rebates/coolheat/duct/index.shtml">http://www.pge.com/myhome/saveenergymoney/rebates/coolheat/duct/index.shtml</a> >.	
Provide necessary infrastructure and treatment to allow use of 50% greywater/ recycled water in residential and commercial uses for outdoor irrigation	SFR: 74%*50% = 37.5%	GHGs	R electricity (water consumption )	Department of Water Resources. 2001. Statewide Indoor/Outdoor Split. Accessed December 2, 2008. Available at: < <a href="http://www.landwateruse.water.ca.gov/annualdata/urbanwateruse/2001/landuselvels.cfm?use=8">http://www.landwateruse.water.ca.gov/annualdata/urbanwateruse/2001/landuselvels.cfm?use=8</a> >.	
	MFR: 58% * 50% = 29%		C electricity (water consumption )		
	Commercial: 12% * 50% = 6%				
Complete streets (i.e., bike lanes and pedestrian sidewalks on both sides of streets, traffic calming features such as pedestrian bulb-outs, cross-walks, traffic circles, and elimination of physical and psychological barriers (e.g., sound walls and large arterial roadways, respectively).)	1-5%	CAPs, GHGs	Mobile sources	Dierkers, G., E. Silsbe, S. Stott, S. Winkelmann, and M. Wubben. 2007. <i>CCAP Transportation Emissions Guidebook</i> . Center for Clean Air Policy. Washington, D.C. Available: < <a href="http://www.ccap.org/safe/guidebook.php">http://www.ccap.org/safe/guidebook.php</a> >. as cited in California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) 2008. <i>CEQA and Climate Change</i> .	



**NON-URBEMIS Energy Efficiency Mitigation Measures**

Measure	Sector Reductions	Applicable Pollutants	Sector	Notes	Additional comments
Maximize interior day light		GHGs	R, C, M		
Increase roof/ceiling insulation		CAPs, GHGs	R, C, M		
Create program to encourage efficiency improvements in rental units		CAPs, GHGs	R		
Install rainwater collection systems in residential and Commercial Buildings		GHGs	R,C,M		
Install low-water use appliances and fixtures		GHGs	R,C,M	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) 2008. CEQA and Climate Change.	
Restrict the use of water for cleaning outdoor surfaces/Prohibit systems that apply water to non-vegetated surfaces		GHGs	R,C,M	California Attorney General's Office GHG Reduction Measures	
Implement water-sensitive urban design practices in new construction		GHGs	R,C,M		

**NON-URBEMIS Waste Reduction Mitigation Measures**

Provide composting facilities at residential uses		GHGs	R		
Create food waste and green waste curb-side pickup service		GHGs	R,C,M		
Require the provision of storage areas for recyclables and green waste in new construction		GHGs	R,C,M		

Notes: CAPs = Criteria Air Pollutants; GHGs = Greenhouse Gases; ROG = Reactive Organic Gases; R = Residential Development; C = Commercial Development; M = Mixed Use Development; A/C = Air Conditioning; and VOC = Volatile Organic Compounds.

Source: Information compiled by EDAW 2009.



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## 5. LOCAL COMMUNITY RISK AND HAZARD IMPACTS

The purpose of this Chapter is (1) to recommend methods whereby local community risk and hazard impacts from projects for both new sources and new receptors can be determined based on comparison with thresholds of significance determined by the lead agency (2) to recommend mitigation measures for these impacts. This chapter contains the following sections:

**Section 5.2** – Presents methods for assessing single-source impacts from either an individual new source or impacts on new receptors from existing individual sources.

**Section 5.3** – Discusses methods for assessing cumulative impacts from multiple sources.

**Section 5.4** – Discusses methods for mitigating local community risk and hazard impacts.

The recommendations provided in this chapter apply to assessing and mitigating impacts for project-level impacts and related cumulative impacts. Refer to Chapter 9 for recommendations for assessing and mitigating local community risk and hazard impacts at the plan-level.

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### 5.1. TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS

TACs are a defined set of airborne pollutants that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. A wide range of sources, from industrial plants to motor vehicles, emit TACs. Like  $PM_{2.5}$ , TAC can be emitted directly and can also be formed in the atmosphere through reactions among different pollutants. The methods presented in this Chapter for assessing local community risk and hazard impacts only include direct TAC emissions, not those formed in the atmosphere.

The health effects associated with TACs are quite diverse and generally are assessed locally, rather than regionally. TACs can cause long-term health effects such as cancer, birth defects, neurological damage, asthma, bronchitis or genetic damage; or short-term acute effects such as eye watering, respiratory irritation (a cough), running nose, throat pain, and headaches. For evaluation purposes, TACs are separated into carcinogens and non-carcinogens based on the nature of the physiological effects associated with exposure to the pollutant. Carcinogens are assumed to have no safe threshold below which health impacts would not occur, and cancer risk is expressed as excess cancer cases per one million exposed individuals, typically over a lifetime of exposure. Non-carcinogenic substances differ in that there is generally assumed to be a safe level of exposure below which no negative health impact is believed to occur. These levels are determined on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis. Acute and chronic exposure to non-carcinogens is expressed as a hazard index (HI), which is the ratio of expected exposure levels to an acceptable reference exposure levels.

TACs are primarily regulated through State and local risk management programs. These programs are designed to eliminate, avoid, or minimize the risk of adverse health effects from exposures to TACs. A chemical becomes a regulated TAC in California based on designation by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).



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As part of its jurisdiction under Air Toxics Hot Spots Program (Health and Safety Code Section 44360(b)(2)), OEHHA derives cancer potencies and reference exposure levels (RELs) for individual air contaminants based on the current scientific knowledge that includes consideration of possible differential effects on the health of infants, children and other sensitive subpopulations, in accordance with the mandate of the Children's Environmental Health Protection Act (Senate Bill 25, Escutia, Chapter 731, Statutes of 1999, Health and Safety Code Sections 39669.5 et seq.). The methodology in this Chapter reflects the approach adopted by OEHHA in May 2009, which considers age sensitivity factors to account for early life stage exposures. The specific toxicity values of each particular TAC as identified by OEHHA are listed in BAAQMD's [Regulation 2, Rule 5: New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants](#).

### 5.1.1. Fine Particulate Matter

PM<sub>2.5</sub> is a complex mixture of substances that includes elements such as carbon and metals; compounds such as nitrates, organics, and sulfates; and complex mixtures such as diesel exhaust and wood smoke. PM<sub>2.5</sub> can be emitted directly and can also be formed in the atmosphere through reactions among different pollutants. The methods presented in this Chapter for assessing local community risk and hazard impacts only include direct PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions, not those formed in the atmosphere.

Compelling evidence suggests that PM<sub>2.5</sub> is by far the most harmful air pollutant in the SFBAAB in terms of the associated impact on public health. A large body of scientific evidence indicates that both long-term and short-term exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> can cause a wide range of health effects (e.g., aggravating asthma and bronchitis, causing visits to the hospital for respiratory and cardiovascular symptoms, and contributing to heart attacks and deaths). BAAQMD recommends characterizing potential health effects from exposure to directly PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions through comparison to the project thresholds of significance determined by the lead agency.

### 5.1.2. Common Source Types

Common stationary source types of TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions include gasoline stations, dry cleaners, and diesel backup generators, which are subject to BAAQMD permit requirements. The other, often more significant, common source type is on-road motor vehicles on freeways and roads such as trucks and cars, and off-road sources such as construction equipment, ships and trains. Because these common sources are prevalent in many communities, this Chapter focuses on screening tools for the evaluation of associated cumulative community risk and hazard impacts. However, it is important to note that other influential source types do exist (e.g., ports, railyards, and truck distribution centers), but these are often more complex and require more advanced modeling techniques beyond those discussed herein.

The recommended methodology for assessing community risks and hazards from PM<sub>2.5</sub> and TACs follows a phased approach. Within this approach, more advanced techniques, for both new sources and receptors, which require additional site specific information are presented for each progressive phase to assess risks and hazards. Each phase provides concentrations and risks for comparison to the lead agency's thresholds, although it is important to note that the use of more site specific modeling input data produces more accurate results. Also, progression from one phase to the next in a sequential fashion is not necessary and a refined modeling analysis can be conducted at any time.

### 5.1.3. Impacted Communities

In the Bay Area, there are a number of urban or industrialized communities where the exposure to TACs is relatively high in comparison to others. These same communities are often faced with other environmental and socio-economic hardships that further stress their residents and result in poor health outcomes. To address community risk from air toxics, the Air District initiated the Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) program in 2004 to identify locations with high levels of



risk from TACs co-located with sensitive populations and use the information to help focus mitigation measures. Through the CARE program, the Air District developed an inventory of TAC emissions for 2005 and compiled demographic and health indicator data. According to the findings of the CARE Program, diesel PM, mostly from on and off-road mobile sources, accounts for over 80 percent of the inhalation cancer risk from TACs in the Bay Area. Figure 5-1 shows the impacted communities as of November 2009, including: the urban core areas of Concord, eastern San Francisco, western Alameda County, Redwood City/East Palo Alto, Richmond/San Pablo, and San Jose. For more information on, and possible revisions to, impacted communities, go to the [CARE Program website](#).

In many cases, air quality conditions in impacted communities result in part from land use and transportation decisions made over many years. BAAQMD believes comprehensive, community-wide strategies will achieve the greatest reductions in emissions of and exposure to TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. BAAQMD strongly recommends that within these impacted areas local jurisdictions develop and adopt a plan based approach for evaluating and addressing local risks and hazards, described in Section 5.4. The goal of such a plan is to encourage local jurisdictions to take a proactive approach to reduce the overall exposure to TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and concentrations from new and existing sources. Local plans may also be developed in other areas to address air quality impacts related to land use decisions and ensure sufficient health protection in the community.

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## **5.2. SINGLE SOURCE IMPACTS**

### **5.2.1. Significance Determination**

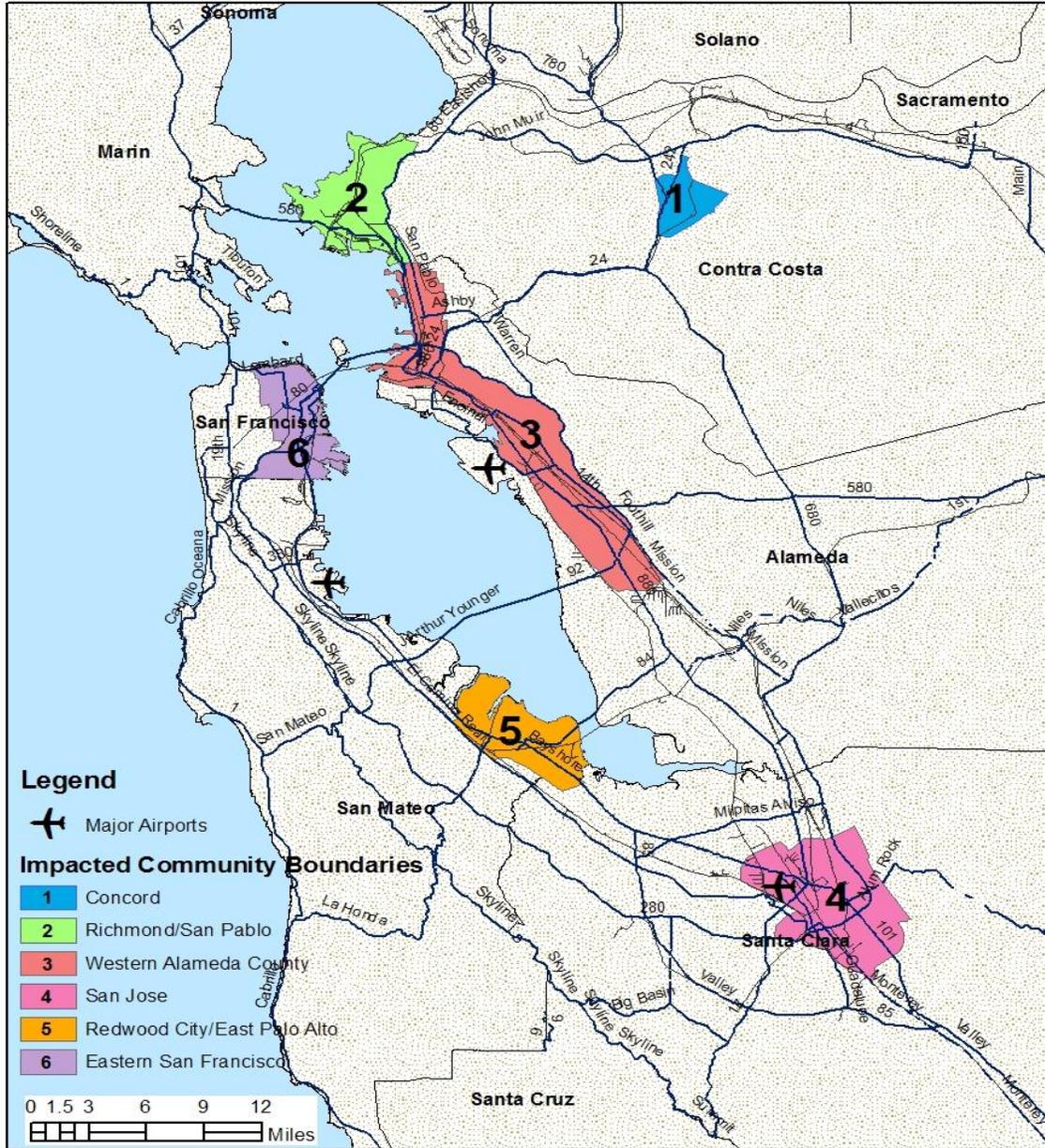
Lead agencies should determine whether operational-related TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions generated as part of a proposed project would expose existing or new receptors to levels that exceed the lead agency's thresholds of significance.

In all areas, but especially within impacted communities identified under BAAQMD's CARE program, the lead agency is encouraged to develop and adopt a plan based approach to reduce risk and hazards. To determine whether an impacted community is located in a jurisdiction, refer to Figure 5-1 and the BAAQMD CARE web page at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/CARE/>. Please consult with BAAQMD if a more precise map is needed.



Impacted Communities

Figure 5-1



Source: BAAQMD 2009



Exposure of receptors to substantial concentrations of TACs and PM<sub>2.5</sub> could occur from the following situations:

1. Siting a new TAC and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> source (e.g., diesel generator, truck distribution center, freeway) near existing or planned receptors; and
2. Siting a new receptor near an existing source of TAC and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions.

BAAQMD recommendations for evaluating and making a significance determination for each of these situations are discussed separately below.

### **5.2.2. Siting a New Source**

When evaluating whether a new source of TAC and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions would adversely affect existing or future proposed receptors, a lead agency should examine:

- the extent to which the new source would increase risk levels, hazard index, and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at nearby receptors,
- whether the source would be permitted or non-permitted by the BAAQMD, and
- whether the project would implement Best Available Control Technology for Toxics (T-BACT), as determined by BAAQMD.

The incremental increase in cancer and non-cancer (chronic and acute) risk from TACs and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at the affected receptors should be assessed. The recommended methodology for assessing community risks and hazards from PM<sub>2.5</sub> and TACs follows a phased approach, within which progressively more advanced techniques are presented for each phase (Figure 5-2). Progression from one phase to the next in a sequential fashion is not necessary and a refined modeling analysis can be conducted at any time.

For siting a new source, the first step is to determine the associated emission levels.

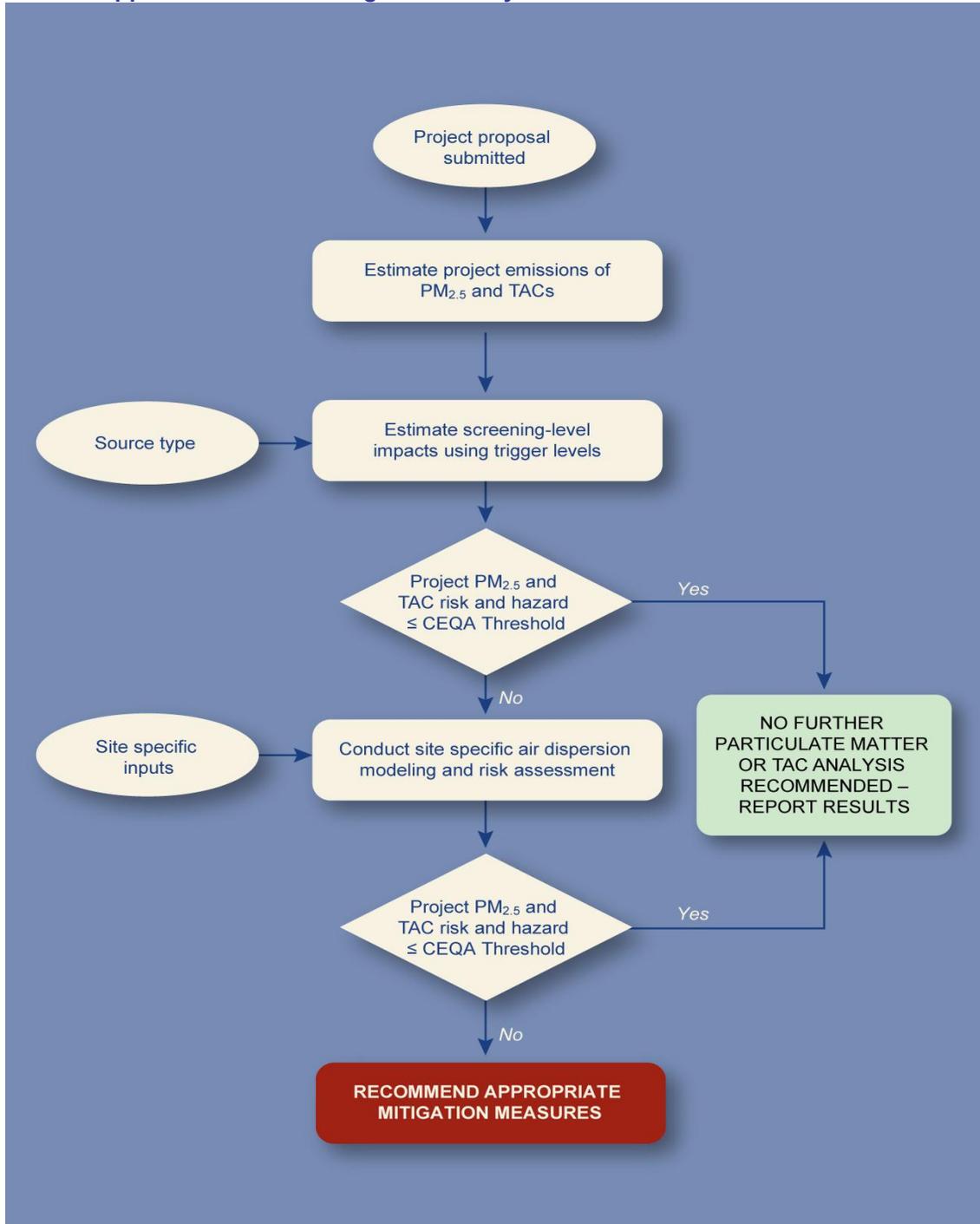
### **5.2.3. Sources Permitted by BAAQMD**

For sources that would be permitted by BAAQMD (e.g., gas stations and back-up diesel generators) the project's type, size, or planned level of use can be used to help estimate PM<sub>2.5</sub> and TAC emissions. Screening or modeling conducted as part of the permit application can be used to determine cancer and non-cancer risk and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations for comparing to the project threshold. BAAQMD can assist in determining the level of emissions associated with the new source. A lead agency should identify the maximally exposed existing or reasonably foreseeable future receptor.

Requirements of Toxics New Source Review (Regulation 2, Rule 5) will determine whether the project would implement T-BACT.

Figure 5-2

Phased Approach for Estimating Community Risks and Hazards – New Sources



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Concentration estimates of PM<sub>2.5</sub> from screening or modeling should be compared with the project's threshold. If screening estimates determine PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations from the project would not exceed the project's thresholds, no further analysis is recommended. If emissions would exceed the thresholds, more refined modeling or mitigation measures to offset emissions should be considered.

#### 5.2.4. Sources Not Requiring a BAAQMD Permit

Some proposed projects may include the operation of non-permitted sources of TAC and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions. For instance, projects that would attract high numbers of diesel-powered on-road trucks or use off-road diesel equipment on site, such as a distribution center, a quarry, or a manufacturing facility, would potentially expose existing or future planned receptors to substantial risk levels and/or health hazards.

For sources that would not require permits from BAAQMD (e.g., distribution centers and large retail centers) where emissions are primarily from mobile sources—the number and activity of vehicles and fleet information is required. The latest version of the State of California's [EMFAC](#) model is recommended for estimating emissions from on-road vehicles; the [OFFROAD](#) model is recommended for estimating emissions from off-road vehicles.



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If modeling estimates for community risks and hazards determine that local levels associated with the proposed project meet the project thresholds, no further *analysis is recommended*. More details on project screening and recommended protocols for modeling stationary and mobile sources are presented in [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#). The document describes the recommended methodology for performing dispersion modeling and estimating emission factors; how to calculate the potential cancer risk using age-sensitivity toxicity factors from the concentrations produced from the air modeling analysis; and provides a sample calculation and the methodology for estimating short term, acute exposures and long term, chronic health impacts. The recommended protocols are consistent with the most current risk assessment methodology used for the BAAQMD's New Source Review for Toxic Air Contaminants [Regulation 2, Rule 5: Toxics New Source Review](#) and, with few exceptions, follows the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association's (CAPCOA) [Health Risk Assessments for Proposed Land Use Projects](#) (July 2009).

For new land uses that would host a high number of non-permitted TAC sources, such as a distribution center, the incremental increase in cancer risk should be determined by an HRA using an acceptable air dispersion model in accordance with BAAQMD's [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) and/or CAPCOA's guidance document titled [Health Risk Assessments for Proposed Land Use Projects](#). A lead agency may consult HRAs that have previously been conducted for similar land uses to determine whether it assesses the incremental increase in cancer risk qualitatively or by performing an HRA. This analysis should account for all TAC and PM emissions generated on the project site, as well as any TAC emissions that would occur near the site as a result of the implementation of the project (e.g., diesel trucks queuing outside an entrance, a high volume of trucks using a road to access a quarry or landfill).

Some proposed projects would include both permitted and non-permitted TAC sources. For instance, a manufacturing facility may include some permitted stationary sources and also attract



a high volume of diesel trucks and/or include a rail yard. All sources should be accounted for in the analysis.

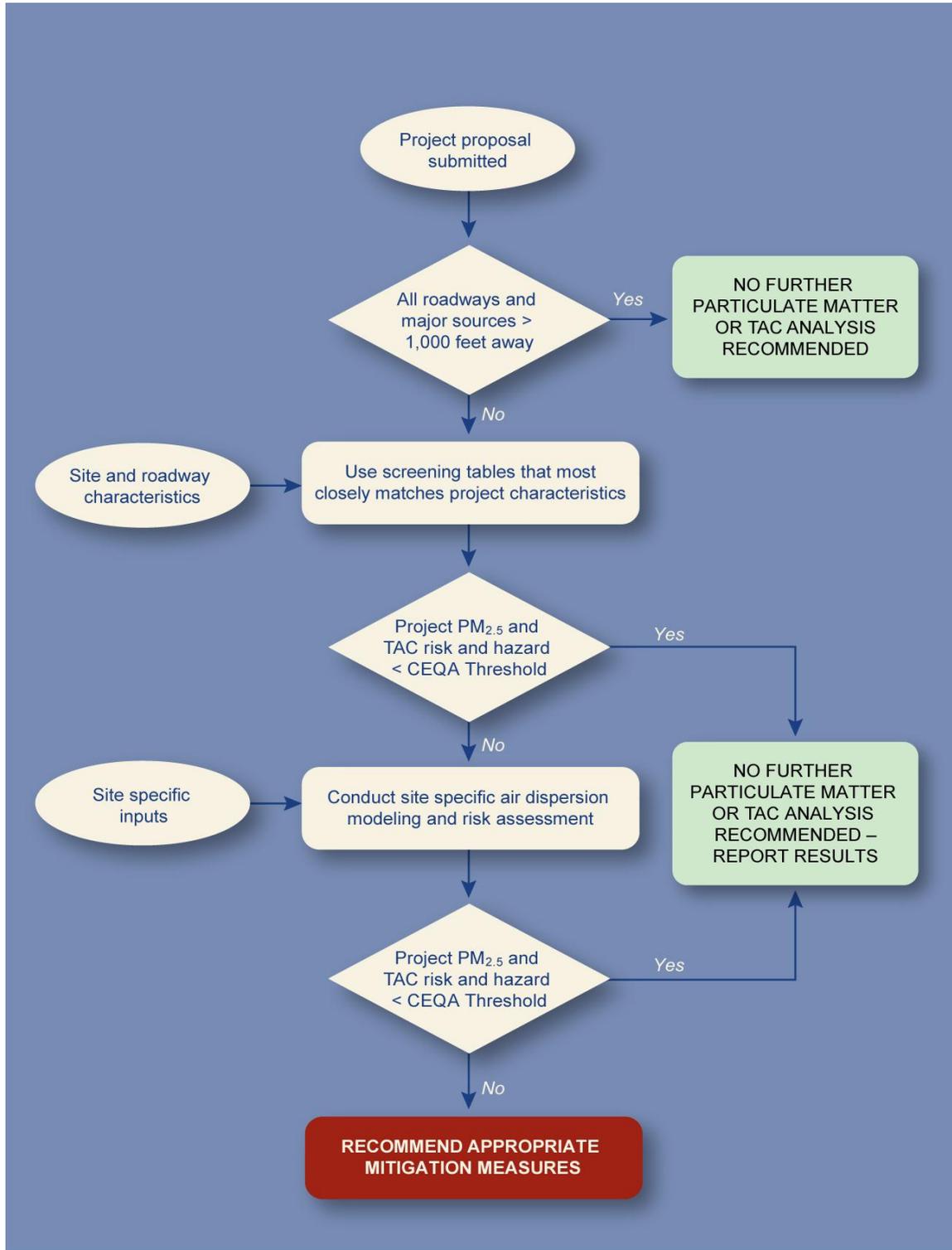
### 5.2.5. Siting a New Receptor

If a project is likely to be a place where people live, play, or convalesce, it should be considered a receptor. It should also be considered a receptor if sensitive individuals are likely to spend a significant amount of time there. Sensitive individuals refer to those segments of the population most susceptible to poor air quality: children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing serious health problems affected by air quality (ARB 2005). Examples of receptors include residences, schools and school yards, parks and play grounds, daycare centers, nursing homes, and medical facilities. Residences can include houses, apartments, and senior living complexes. Medical facilities can include hospitals, convalescent homes, and health clinics. Playgrounds could be play areas associated with parks or community centers.

When siting a new receptor, the existing or future proposed sources of TAC and/or  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions that would adversely affect individuals within the planned project should be examined, including:

- the extent to which existing sources would increase risk levels, hazard index, and/or  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations near the planned receptor,
- whether the existing sources are permitted or non-permitted by the BAAQMD, and
- whether there are freeways or major roadways near the planned receptor.

The phased approach for evaluating impacts to new receptors is shown in Figure 5-3.



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**Phased Approach for Estimating Community Risks and Hazards – Receptors  
Figure 5-3**



### 5.2.6. Stationary Sources Screening Analysis

BAAQMD has developed an online tool containing data for existing permitted, stationary sources of TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub> including site locations, UTM coordinates, source type, and estimates of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, cancer risk, and chronic hazard index. The online tool is a Google Earth™ application and may be downloaded for free from the BAAQMD website, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES/Tools-and-Methodology.aspx>. The Google Earth™ files consist of compressed keyhole markup language (kml) files for each of the nine Bay Area counties.

The stationary source screening tool contains all the sources in the Bay Area that have permits to operate and that emit one or more toxic air contaminants. The types of sources include, but are not limited to: refineries, gasoline dispensing facilities, dry cleaners, diesel internal combustion engines, natural gas turbines, crematories, landfills, waste water treatment facilities, hospitals and coffee roasters. The screening tool contains the following information for each source:

- Unique Plant Number for the stationary source used by the District (plant numbers starting with “G” are gasoline dispensing facilities that could be retail or non-retail). Plants are facilities or buildings that require a District permit. Plants are geo-coded and have BAAQMD assigned numbers. Plants can have multiple emission sources.
- The stationary source’s plant name.
- Geocoded location for the Plant (Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates). Note that the UTM coordinates represent only a single point at a plant, which may not be the point closest to the project. Also, the reference points for the UTM coordinates in the screening table may not be the same for all plants. Potential distance offsets may be as great as 200 meters. To ensure that all relevant plants are included, actual locations of sources should be verified.
- Conservatively estimated PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, cancer risk, and chronic hazard index due to emissions from a plant are intended for screening purposes only. The screening values do not include acute hazard index since the maximum values for all sources was found to be very minor. Some of the sources may be marked with an asterisk, “\*.” The estimated risk and hazards for these sources are based on Health Risk Screening Assessments conducted by the District using the most site specific data available. The remaining stationary source risk and hazards impact estimates were derived using conservative modeling parameters and assumptions. The estimated risk and hazard impacts for these sources would be expected to be lower when site-specific Health Risk Screening Assessments are conducted.

The risk and hazard impacts in the stationary source screening tool do not represent actual impacts. The values are based on worst case assumption scenarios to determine whether or not a refined modeling analysis may be needed. The calculations used in the screening analysis do not include source specific exhaust information such as stack height, exhaust gas exit velocity, exhaust gas temperature, nor do they account for actual distances from receptors. A more refined analysis using source specific exhaust parameters, site specific meteorological data, site specific building dimensions and locations, and actual location of source and receptors is expected to result in lower and more accurate values than those found in the screening tool.

The impacts estimated from this step and if conducted, modeling analysis, should be summed and compared to the project’s thresholds. If the impacts exceed the project’s thresholds then the lead agency should consider possible mitigations that can reduce potential air quality impacts.



To use the stationary source screening tool, a user would open the county specific kml file, found on BAAQMD's website, where their project is located and identify all the stationary sources within a radius from the project as deemed appropriate by the lead agency. The Google Earth™ ruler function may be used to measure the distance between stationary sources and the edge of the project boundaries. Users should then select the identified stationary sources to view the estimated PM<sub>2.5</sub>, cancer risk, and chronic hazard index levels estimated for that source.

As an example, Table 5-1 presents a hypothetical location at 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Judah Street in San Francisco and lists the stationary sources within 1,000 feet of the example location. Each row contains entries for a specific existing stationary source and conservative estimates of cancer risk, PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration, and chronic hazard index. The risk and hazards for each source should be compared to the lead agency's significance thresholds. In the example below, the lead agency may choose to contact BAAQMD staff to learn more about the source and how the risk was estimated and/or opt to conduct site specific modeling for more refined risk and hazard estimates.

Table 5-1 Screening Data for Existing Permitted Stationary Sources*									
EXAMPLE Proposed Project Location Details: Address-19th Avenue and Judah Street, San Francisco, CA Centroid UTM's-E 546090, N 4179460									
Plant #	Plant Name	Street Address	City	UTM E	UTM N	Cancer Risk in a million	PM <sub>2.5</sub> ug/m <sup>3</sup>	Chronic Hazard Index	
462	20th Avenue Cleaner	1845 Irving Street	San Francisco	546113	4179490	7.5		0.02	
4672	Sundown Cleaners	1952 Irving Street	San Francisco	546016	4179510	7.5		0.02	
13519	Pacific Bell	1515 19th Avenue	San Francisco	546086	4179240	58.4	0.10	0.10	
2155	Chevron Station #91000	1288 19th Avenue	San Francisco	546052	4179720	5.8		0.03	
8756	ConocoPhillips #251075	1400 19th Avenue	San Francisco	546064	4179490	2.7		0.01	
9266	ConocoPhillips #2611185	1401 19th Avenue	San Francisco	546058	4179500	2.2		0.01	
<b>Cumulative:</b>						84		0.04	
Source: BAAQMD 2009									
*This example provides conservative screening level estimates and does not represent actual risk, hazard index or PM <sub>2.5</sub> concentrations for the facilities listed.									

For detailed information on the methodology and assumptions used in creating the screening tool, and for guidance on conducting site specific modeling see the [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report available on the District's website.



### 5.2.7. On-road Mobile Sources Screening Analysis

BAAQMD developed screening analysis tools for estimating risk and hazard impacts from California highways and surface streets in the Bay Area's nine counties. These tools are available on BAAQMD's website and are discussed individually below.

The highway and roadway screening tools serve as an easy-to-use initial screening process to determine if nearby highway and roadway impacts to a new receptor are below the project thresholds. The outcome of the screening may be used to determine whether no further analysis is needed or if a more refined analysis is warranted. BAAQMD recommends the following project screening approach:

1. Determine if the new receptor is near a high volume roadway defined as a freeway or arterial roadway with greater than 10,000 vehicles or 1,000 trucks per day. For new residential developments, the receptor should be placed at the edge of the property boundary. If there are no high volume highway/roadway sources nearby, then no further single-source roadway-related air quality evaluation is needed.
2. If the receptor is near a nearby highway/roadway that has greater than 10,000 vehicles or 1,000 trucks per day, then the county specific roadway screening tables and the highway screening analysis tool should be used to determine the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, cancer risks, and hazards for the project. When two or more highways/roadways are being evaluated, sum the contribution from each highway/roadway. If any of the estimates for PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration, cancer risk, and hazards exceed the project thresholds, then more refined modeling analysis is recommended or the lead agency may choose to implement mitigation measures.
3. For developments that exceed the screening analysis, site specific modeling analysis is recommended following BAAQMD's [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#).

#### Highway Screening Analysis

For all state highways in the Bay Area, BAAQMD has developed an online highway screening analysis tool with modeled cancer risk and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations for each highway link. The online tool consists of Google Earth™ kmz files that may be downloaded from BAAQMD's website, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES/Tools-and-Methodology.aspx>. Estimated risk and hazard impacts are listed for each highway link based on the distance from the edge of a highway's nearest travel lane to the project, AADT count, fleet mix and other modeling parameters specific to that highway link. The estimated risk and hazard impacts are modeled at two different heights, 6 feet and 20 feet. The 6 foot height estimates should be used when receptors are located on the ground floor of a building; and the 20 foot height estimates should be used when receptors are located on the second floor of a building. In each case, the risk and hazard impacts are modeled by distance, from 10 to 1,000 feet on either side of the highway. If a project is located between two highway links or between two distance points, the higher values should be used. If the project is between two distance points in the screening table the cancer risk and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations may be further refined by linearly interpolating the distance between the project and the highway. See the [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report for specific instructions on how to linearly interpolate values. PM<sub>2.5</sub>

As an example, if a proposed project is located 200 feet east of San Pablo Avenue (Highway 123) in Berkeley, and it is known that the ground floor of the project will not house any receptors, the Alameda county ".kmz" file for 20 feet should be downloaded from the BAAQMD website. Once



opened in Google Earth™, the closest Highway 123 link to the project should be selected for a summary of the estimated risk and hazard impacts at that highway link. A user would then use the risk and hazard impacts listed at 200 feet east of the freeway in its project analysis. In this case, the highway link table indicates that at 200 feet east of the highway, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is estimated at 0.061 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, the cancer risk at 4.524 per million, the chronic hazard index at 0.006, and the acute hazard index at 0.006.

For detailed information on the methodology and assumptions used in creating the screening tool, see the [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report available on the District's website.

### **Roadway Screening Analysis**

For major roadways not designated as state highways, BAAQMD developed county-specific screening tables to assess potential impacts for roads with 10,000 to 100,000 annual average daily traffic (AADT). The screening tables present PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations and cancer risk at specific distances away from the edge of the nearest travel lane of a road in relation to the project. These sets of tables correspond to projects located upwind or downwind of the roadway with respect to the prevailing wind direction. Roadways with less than 10,000 vehicles per day are considered minor, low-impact sources and inclusion of these roads in CEQA evaluation is not warranted. In addition, the tables do not include acute or chronic noncancer hazards since the screening values were found to be extremely low. The screening tables may be downloaded from the BAAQMD website, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES/Tools-and-Methodology.aspx>. For detailed information on the methodology and assumptions used in creating the screening tables, see the [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report available on BAAQMD's website.

When using the roadway screening tables, the lead agency should first gather project information including the county for which the development is proposed and the distance of the project to the nearest roadway. The appropriate cell should be determined by referencing the corresponding county, roadway, and project distance in the tables that most closely matches the project conditions. If the project is predominantly north or south of the roadway, choose the north or south tables. Likewise, if the project is predominantly east or west, choose the east or west tables. If the project is evenly located for example, northeast or southwest of the roadway, select the higher value between either screening tables based on the project distance to the roadway. If the project is between two distances or two AADT values, the cancer risk and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations may be further refined by linearly interpolating the AADT and distance between the project and the roadway. See [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report for specific instructions on how to linearly interpolate values.

Table 5-2 outlines an example using the roadway screening analysis tool. A roadway is located in San Francisco in a north-south direction, has 25,800 vehicles per day, and is approximately 276 feet from the project. To estimate the risks and hazards, the user matches the AADT in the row header with the distance from the project to the roadway in the column header. For cases in which the exact AADT or distances are not estimated in the table, the user should select the higher value between the two estimated values. In Table 5-2, the estimated cancer risk for the example is 2.31 cases per million and the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is 0.092 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.

The values may be further refined to account for the exact roadway AADT and distances by scaling the values in the table. The methodology for scaling values is shown in section 3.1.2 of the [Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards](#) report available on BAAQMD's website.



**Table 5-2. Example Cancer Risk and PM2.5 Estimation for Surface Streets**

NORTH-SOUTH DIRECTIONAL ROADWAY							
Annual Average Daily Traffic	Distance East or West of Surface Street - Cancer Risk (per million)						
	10 feet	50 feet	100 feet	200 feet	500 feet	700 feet	1,000 feet
1,000	No analysis required						
5,000	No analysis required						
10,000	2.13	2.10	1.49	0.65	0.36	0.27	0.22
20,000	2.22	2.49	2.22	1.55	0.62	0.51	0.38
30,000	3.37	3.56	3.28	2.31	0.97	0.75	0.55
40,000	4.26	4.46	4.27	3.10	1.33	1.06	0.79
50,000	5.79	6.49	5.78	4.00	1.68	1.33	0.96
60,000	7.81	8.55	7.34	4.76	1.95	1.55	1.15
70,000	9.82	10.60	8.90	5.52	2.22	1.77	1.33
80,000	11.22	12.12	10.17	6.31	2.53	2.02	1.52
90,000	12.63	13.63	11.44	7.10	2.85	2.27	1.71
100,000	14.03	15.15	12.71	7.88	3.17	2.53	1.90

NORTH-SOUTH DIRECTIONAL ROADWAY							
Annual Average Daily Traffic	Distance East or West of Surface Street - PM2.5 Concentration (ug/m <sup>3</sup> )						
	10 feet	50 feet	100 feet	200 feet	500 feet	700 feet	1,000 feet
1,000	No analysis required						
5,000	No analysis required						
10,000	0.080	0.063	0.044	0.016	0.012	0.000	0.000
20,000	0.092	0.101	0.092	0.061	0.021	0.016	0.012
30,000	0.129	0.147	0.129	0.092	0.032	0.022	0.017
40,000	0.166	0.193	0.175	0.120	0.051	0.037	0.024
50,000	0.249	0.267	0.239	0.166	0.064	0.050	0.029
60,000	0.341	0.359	0.304	0.198	0.076	0.057	0.039
70,000	0.433	0.451	0.368	0.230	0.087	0.064	0.050
80,000	0.495	0.516	0.421	0.263	0.099	0.074	0.057
90,000	0.557	0.580	0.474	0.296	0.111	0.083	0.064
100,000	0.618	0.645	0.526	0.329	0.124	0.092	0.071

The results of the screening analysis indicate whether new receptors will be exposed to highway/roadway TAC emissions and whether, a more refined modeling analysis may be needed. If the concentration is less than the lead agency's determined thresholds, then no further analysis is required for the single source comparison for roadways. The results of the analysis should be reported in the environmental documentation or staff report that includes a reference to the screening tables used. If the concentrations exceed the project thresholds, then the user has the option to conduct a more refined modeling analysis or implement appropriate mitigation measures.

To conduct a more refined modeling analysis, BAAQMD recommends following the methodology in the *Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards* report available on BAAQMD's website.

For conducting refined modeling to estimate concentrations from TAC, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and diesel BAAQMD recommends using the CAL3QHCR model. The CAL3QHCR model can estimate air concentrations at defined receptor locations by processing hourly meteorological data over a year, hourly emissions, and traffic volume. The latest version of the model is available at:



[http://www.epa.gov/scram001/dispersion\\_prefrec.htm](http://www.epa.gov/scram001/dispersion_prefrec.htm). For each analysis, the District recommends developing pollutant specific emission factors from EMFAC. As specified in Regulation 2, Rule 5, BAAQMD also recommends that age sensitivity factors be applied to the emissions per year to account for early life-stage exposures. For detailed discussion on this methodology, refer to the *Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards* report available on BAAQMD's website.

The risk and hazard levels from the modeling analysis should then be compared with the project thresholds. Further assessment may be needed if the thresholds are exceeded, and the lead agency may consider design changes and other mitigation measures as a means of reducing potential risks.

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### 5.3. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

#### 5.3.1. Significance Determination

A lead agency should examine TAC sources that are located near a proposed project site. Sources of TACs include, but are not limited to, land uses such as freeways and high volume roadways, truck distribution centers, ports, rail yards, refineries, chrome plating facilities, dry cleaners using perchloroethylene, and gasoline dispensing facilities. Land uses with permitted sources, such as a landfill or manufacturing plant, may also contain non-permitted TAC and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> sources, particularly if they host a high volume of diesel truck activity. A lead agency should determine what the combined risk levels are from all nearby TAC sources in the vicinity of sensitive receptors. Lead agencies should use their judgment to decide if there are large sources not immediately nearby but close enough that should be included.

A lead agency's analysis should determine whether TAC emissions generated as part of a proposed project would expose off-site receptors to risk levels that exceed the lead agency's determined threshold for assessing cumulative impacts.

BAAQMD recommends that cumulative impacts of new sources and new receptors be evaluated as described in Section 5.2, and include the impacts of all individual sources (stationary and on-road mobile). In impacted communities identified under BAAQMD's CARE program, lead agencies are encouraged to develop and adopt plan based approach to evaluating and addressing risk and hazards. To determine whether a new source is located in an impacted community, refer to Figure 5-1 and the [CARE webpage](#).

The risk and hazards analysis for assessing potential cumulative impacts should follow the risk screening guidance described in *Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards*, which generally follows CAPCOA's guidance document titled *Health Risk Assessments for Proposed Land Use Projects*.

A lead agency should compare the analysis results from TAC emissions with their determined significance thresholds for the project. If a proposed project would not exceed project thresholds then the project would result in a less-than-significant air quality impact. If a project would exceed the project thresholds, the proposed project would result in a potentially significant air quality impact and the lead agency should implement all feasible mitigation to reduce the impact (refer to Section 5.5 for mitigating impacts).

If implementation of BAAQMD-recommended mitigation measures for reducing TAC emissions and resultant exposure to health risks would reduce all TAC impacts to levels below the project's thresholds, TAC impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. If resultant health risk



exposure would still exceed the project's thresholds, the impacts would be considered significant and unavoidable.

To address emissions from stationary sources, refer to the Air District's permit handbook and BACT/T-BACT workbook.

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#### 5.4. MITIGATING LOCAL COMMUNITY RISK AND HAZARD IMPACTS

The list below outlines potential mitigation measures for reducing TAC emissions and exposure to sensitive receptors in land use projects. The mitigation measures are especially helpful in protecting public health for proposed infill and transit-oriented development projects located near TAC sources.

1. Increase project distance from freeways and/or major roadways.
2. Redesign the site layout to locate sensitive receptors as far as possible from any freeways, major roadways, or other non-permitted TAC sources (e.g., loading docks, parking lots).
3. Large projects may consider phased development where commercial/retail portions of the project are developed first. This would allow time for CARB's diesel regulations to take effect in reducing diesel emissions along major highways and arterial roadways. Ultimately, lower concentrations would be anticipated along the roads in the near future such that residential development would be impacted by less risk in later phases of development.
4. Projects that propose sensitive receptors adjacent to sources of diesel PM (e.g., freeways, major roadways, rail lines, and rail yards) should consider tiered plantings of trees such as redwood, deodar cedar, live oak and oleander to reduce TAC and PM exposure. This recommendation is based on a laboratory study that measured the removal rates of PM passing through leaves and needles of vegetation. Particles were generated in a wind tunnel and a static chamber and passed through vegetative layers at low wind velocities. Redwood, deodar cedar, live oak, and oleander were tested. The results indicate that all forms of vegetation were able to remove 65–85 percent of very fine particles at wind velocities below 1.5 meters per second, with redwood and deodar cedar being the most effective.
5. Install and maintain air filtration systems of fresh air supply either on an individual unit-by-unit basis, with individual air intake and exhaust ducts ventilating each unit separately, or through a centralized building ventilation system. The ventilation system should be certified to achieve a performance effectiveness, for example, to remove at least 85% of ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations from indoor areas. Air intakes should be located away from emission sources areas, such as major roadways. Users may factor in the amount of time that receptors spend indoors verses out-of-doors to account for air filtration systems in modeling, provided that all assumptions are justified with scientific documentation.
6. Where appropriate, install passive (drop-in) electrostatic filtering systems, especially those with low air velocities (i.e., 1 mph).
7. Require rerouting of nearby heavy-duty truck routes.
8. Enforce illegal parking and/or idling of heavy-duty trucks in vicinity.



To address emission from stationary sources, please refer to [BAAQMD's permit handbook and BACT/T-BACT workbook](#).





## 6. LOCAL CARBON MONOXIDE IMPACTS



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Emissions and ambient concentrations of CO have decreased dramatically in the SFBAAB with the introduction of the catalytic converter in 1975. No exceedances of the CAAQS or NAAQS for CO have been recorded at nearby monitoring stations since 1991. SFBAAB is currently designated as an attainment area for the CAAQS and NAAQS for CO; however, elevated localized concentrations of CO still warrant consideration in the environmental review process. Occurrences of localized CO concentrations, known

as hotspots, are often associated with heavy traffic congestion, which most frequently occur at signalized intersections of high-volume roadways.

### 6.1. SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION

#### **Step 1: Emissions Quantification**

This section describes recommended methodologies for quantifying concentrations of local CO for proposed transportation projects. The recommended methodology is to use both the On-Road Mobile-Source Emission Factors (EMFAC) and the California Line Source Dispersion Model (CALINE4) models in accordance with recommendations in the University of California, Davis, Transportation Project-Level Carbon Monoxide Protocol (*CO Protocol*) (Garza, et al. 1997). Proposed stationary source projects should model their potential CO impacts using AERMOD. For specific guidance on using AERMOD, refer to EPA's website, [http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/dispersion\\_prefrec.htm#aermod](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/dispersion_prefrec.htm#aermod).

#### **Air Quality Models**

BAAQMD recommends using the most current version of the EMFAC model to obtain mobile-source emission factors for CO associated with operating conditions that would be representative of the roadway or facility subject to analysis.

Users should input the emission factors and other input parameters into the CALINE4 model to quantify CO concentrations near roadways.

The CO Protocol contains detailed methodology for modeling CO impacts.

#### **Input Parameters**

The CALINE4 model contains five screens for input data. CALINE4 input parameters are summarized below. For more detailed descriptions see the CALINE4 Users Guide.

#### **Job Parameters**

File Name – Name the file (e.g., data file extension) to create the CALINE4 Input file.

Job Title – Provide a name for the modeling scenario (e.g., existing no project, existing plus project).



Run Type – Select the worst-case wind angle.

Aerodynamic Roughness Coefficient – Choose the characteristic (i.e., rural, suburban, central business district, other) that is most representative of the project site.

Model Information – Indicate the unit of measurement (i.e., meters or feet) and inputs the vertical dimension of the project (i.e., altitude above sea level).

Run – Once data input is completed, return to this screen to run the model. Upon running the model, the output will appear as a text file called C4\$.out. Save the output file under an appropriate filename for future reference.

### **Link Geometry**

On this screen, input the dimensions (i.e., coordinates) for the roadway intersection that is the subject of the analysis.

Link Name – Input names for each roadway segment.

Link Type – Indicate the character of the roadway segment (i.e., at-grade, depressed, fill, bridge, parking lot).

Endpoint Coordinates ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $Y_1$ ,  $Y_2$ ) – Input the dimensions (i.e., coordinates) of the roadway segments as though the intersection were oriented at point of origin  $X = 0$ ,  $Y = 0$  on a Cartesian coordinate system. Roadway segments approaching the intersection from the west side of the screen (if north is treated as “up”, or the top of the screen) would have negative X coordinate endpoints. Similarly, roadway segments approaching the intersection from the south would have negative Y coordinate endpoints.

Link Height – Indicate the vertical dimension of the roadway segment. If the roadway segment is at-grade, should set this parameter to zero. If the roadway segment is depressed, enter a negative value for this parameter.

Mixing Zone Width – The Mixing Zone is defined as the width of the roadway, plus three meters on either side. The minimum allowable value is 10 meters, or 32.81 feet.

Canyon/Bluff (Mix Left/Right) – Set these features to zero.

### **Link Activity**

Traffic Volume – Input hourly traffic volumes applicable to each roadway segment.

Emission Factor – Input the CO emission factor (in units of grams/mile) obtained from EMFAC for the applicable vehicle speed class reflecting operating conditions for the affected intersection.

### **Run Conditions**

Wind Speed – Input 0.5 meters per second to represent worst-case conditions.

Wind Direction – Set parameter to zero. Select “Worst-Case Wind Angle” as the “Run Type” on the “Job Parameters” screen, so this field will be overridden by the model.

Wind Direction Standard Deviation – Use a wind direction standard deviation of 5 degrees to represent worst-case conditions.

Atmospheric Stability Class – Use Stability Class 4 (i.e., class D) to represent average conditions in the SFBAAB.



**Mixing Height** – Indicate the vertical dimension over which vertical mixing may occur. In most situations, input 300 meters, approximately the height of the atmospheric boundary layer. If the roadway subject to analysis is a bridge underpass, tunnel, or other situation where vertical mixing would be limited, indicates the height of the structure that would hamper vertical mixing (in units of meters).

**Ambient Temperature** – Indicate the average temperature of the project site during the time of day at which maximum daily traffic volume would occur (in degrees Celsius). A temperature of 7.2 degrees Celsius is recommended.

**Ambient Pollutant Concentration** – Enter 0 in this field to determine the contribution of CO from the roadway subject to analysis. Add the roadway-related CO concentration to ambient CO levels outside of the CALINE4 model, as discussed later in this section.

### ***Receptor Positions***

**Receptor Name** – Input names for each receptor.

**Receptor Coordinates (X, Y, Z)** – Input receptor coordinates in a manner similar to the “Link Coordinates” on the “Link Geometry” screen. Locate receptors at three and seven meters from the intersection in all directions from the intersection, in accordance with the recommendations of the *CO Protocol*. The Receptor Coordinates are oriented in the same Cartesian coordinate system as the roadway segment “Link Coordinates.” Receptors located to the southwest of the intersection would have negative X and Y coordinates. The Z dimension should be assigned the coordinate of 1.8 meters (5.9 feet); the approximate breathing height of a receptor located adjacent to the roadway.

This screen also contains a window that shows a map of the link and receptor coordinates in the X, Y plane.

### **Model Output**

CALINE4 output includes estimated 1-hour CO concentrations in units of ppm at the receptor locations input into the model. Note the highest concentrations at each of the three meter and seven meter receptor distances from the roadway.

### **Background Concentrations**

Ambient 1-hour CO concentrations can be obtained from [ARB air quality monitoring station data](#) and 8-hour concentrations from [EPA](#). Users should obtain the CO monitoring data recorded at the monitoring station nearest the project site. According to the *CO Protocol*, select the second highest concentration recorded during the last two years to represent the ambient CO concentration in the project area.

### **Estimated Localized CO Concentrations**

Users should sum the highest modeled 1-hour CO concentration in units of ppm obtained from CALINE4 to ambient (background) 1-hour CO concentrations in ppm obtained from ARB. This represents the modeled worst-case 1-hour CO concentration near the affected roadway.

**Persistence Factor** – multiply the highest 1-hour CO concentration estimated by CALINE4 by a persistence factor of 0.7, as recommended in the CO Protocol, to obtain the estimated 8-hour CO concentration.

Add the estimated 8-hour CO concentration (ppm) obtained in the previous step to the ambient 8-hour CO concentration obtained from EPA (ppm). This represents the modeled worst-case 8-hour CO concentration near the affected roadway.



### **Step 2: Comparison of Unmitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Following quantification of local CO emissions in accordance with the recommended methods, compare the total modeled worst-case 1-hour and 8-hour CO concentrations with the project threshold determined by the lead agency. If the modeled concentrations do not exceed the lead agency's determined thresholds, the project would result in a less-than-significant impact to air quality. If modeled concentrations do exceed the project thresholds, the proposed project would result in a significant impact to air quality with respect to local CO impacts.

### **Step 3: Mitigation Measures and Emission Reductions**

Where local CO emissions exceed the project thresholds, refer to Section 6.2 for recommended mitigation measures and associated emission reductions. Only reduction measures included in the proposed project or recommended as mitigation in a CEQA-compliant document can be included when quantifying mitigated emission levels.

### **Step 4: Comparison of Mitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Following quantification of local CO emissions in accordance with the recommended methods, compare the total modeled worst-case 1-hour and 8-hour CO concentrations with the project thresholds. If the implementation of recommended mitigation measures reduces all local CO emissions to levels below the project thresholds, the impact to air quality would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. If mitigated levels of local CO emissions still exceed the project thresholds, the impact to air quality would remain significant and unavoidable.

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## **6.2. MITIGATING LOCAL CARBON MONOXIDE IMPACTS**

The following section describes recommended mitigation measures for reducing local CO impacts to air quality. Consider implementation of the following measures, as feasible, for reducing project-generated traffic volumes and associated CO emissions at affected intersections. Actual emission reductions should be quantified through project-specific transportation modeling.

1. Synchronize traffic signals to improve traffic flow and minimize traffic congestion.
2. Consider additional traffic signals, such as light metering, to relocate congested areas further away from receptors.
3. Improve public transit service to reduce vehicle traffic and increase public transit mode share during peak traffic congestion periods.
4. Improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to reduce vehicle traffic and increase bicycle and pedestrian mode share during peak traffic congestion periods. Improvements may include installing class I or II bike lanes, sidewalks, and traffic calming features.
5. Adjust pedestrian crosswalk signal timing to minimize waiting time for vehicles turning right or otherwise sharing green time with pedestrians. Give pedestrians a head start before traffic signal changes to green.
6. Where pedestrian traffic is high, implement pedestrian crosswalks with multi-directional crossings allowing pedestrians to cross intersections diagonally.
7. Limit heavy-duty truck traffic during peak hours. Designate truck routes that divert truck traffic away from congested intersections.
8. Limit left turns or other maneuvers during peak hours that add to congestion.



9. Limit on-street parking during peak hours to allow for added vehicle capacity.
10. Implement traffic congestion-alleviating mitigation measures as identified by a traffic engineer.



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## 7. ODOR IMPACTS

Odor impacts could result from siting a new odor source near existing sensitive receptors or siting a new sensitive receptor near an existing odor source. Examples of land uses that have the potential to generate considerable odors include, but are not limited to:

1. Wastewater treatment plants;
2. Landfills;
3. Confined animal facilities;
4. Composting stations;
5. Food manufacturing plants;
6. Refineries; and
7. Chemical plants.

Odors are generally regarded as an annoyance rather than a health hazard. Manifestations of a person's reaction to odors can range from psychological (e.g., irritation, anger, or anxiety) to physiological (e.g., circulatory and respiratory effects, nausea, vomiting, and headache).

The ability to detect odors varies considerably among the population and overall is quite subjective. People may have different reactions to the same odor. An odor that is offensive to one person may be perfectly acceptable to another (e.g., coffee roaster). An unfamiliar odor is more easily detected and is more likely to cause complaints than a familiar one. Known as odor fatigue, a person can become desensitized to almost any odor and recognition only occurs with an alteration in the intensity.

Quality and intensity are two properties present in any odor. The quality of an odor indicates the nature of the smell experience. For instance, if a person describes an odor as flowery or sweet, then the person is describing the quality of the odor. Intensity refers to the strength of the odor. For example, a person may use the word strong to describe the intensity of an odor. Odor intensity depends on the concentration in the air. When an odor sample is progressively diluted, the odor concentration decreases. As this occurs, the odor intensity weakens and eventually becomes so low that the detection or recognition of the odor is quite difficult. At some point during dilution, the concentration of the odor reaches a level that is no longer detectable.

The presence of an odor impact is dependent on a number of variables including:

1. Nature of the odor source (e.g., wastewater treatment plant, food processing plant);
2. Frequency of odor generation (e.g., daily, seasonal, activity-specific);
3. Intensity of odor (e.g., concentration);
4. Distance of odor source to sensitive receptors (e.g., miles);
5. Wind direction (e.g., upwind or downwind); and
6. Sensitivity of the receptor.

The recommendations provided in this chapter only apply to assessing and mitigating odor impacts for individual projects. Please refer to Chapter 9 for recommendations for assessing and mitigating odor impacts at the plan-level.



## 7.1. SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION

Odor impacts could occur from two different situations:

1. Siting a new odor source (e.g., the project includes a proposed odor source near existing sensitive receptors), or
2. Siting a new receptor (e.g., the project includes proposed sensitive receptors near an existing odor source).

Regardless of the situation, BAAQMD recommends completing the following steps to comprehensively analyze the potential for an odor impact.

### **Step 1: Disclosure of Odor Parameters**

The first step in assessing potential odor impacts is to gather and disclose applicable information regarding the characteristics of the buffer zone between the sensitive receptor(s) and the odor source(s), local meteorological conditions, and the nature of the odor source. Consideration of such parameters assists in evaluating the potential for odor impacts as a result of the proposed project. Projects should clearly state the following information in odor analyses, which provide the minimum amount of information required to address potential odor impacts:

1. Type of odor source(s) the project is exposed to or the type of odor source(s) produced by the project (e.g., wastewater treatment plant, landfill, food manufacturing plant);
2. Frequency of odor events generated by odor source(s) (e.g., operating hours, seasonal);
3. Distance and landscape between the odor source(s) and the sensitive receptor(s) (e.g., topography, land features); and
4. Predominant wind direction and speed and whether the sensitive receptor(s) in question are upwind or downwind from the odor source(s).

### **Step 2: Odor Complaint History**

The impact of an existing odor source on surrounding sensitive receptors should be considered. Lead agencies may identify the number of confirmed complaints received for that specific odor source.

Facilities that are regulated by CalRecycle (e.g. landfill, composting, etc.) are required to have Odor Impact Minimization Plans (OIMP) in place and have procedures that establish fence line odor detection thresholds. The Air District recognizes a lead agency's discretion under CEQA to use established odor detection thresholds as thresholds of significance for CEQA review for CalRecycle regulated facilities with an adopted OIMP.

If the proposed project would be located near an existing odor source, lead agencies could contact BAAQMD to obtain the odor complaints for the source in question. Lead agencies should disclose the distance at which receptors were affected by the existing odor source. As discussed in Step 1, describe the topography and landscape between the receptors and the odor source. These distances and landscaping should then be compared with the distance and landscape that would separate the proposed project and the odor source.

If the proposed project would locate an odor source, first identify the location of potential sensitive receptors (i.e., distance, upwind/downwind) with respect to the project site. To evaluate how implementation of the proposed source project would affect identified sensitive receptors contact BAAQMD to obtain odor complaints in the region for facilities similar in size and type of odor. These surrogate odor complaints should be evaluated for their distance from source to receptor,



and then compared with the distance from the proposed project to receptors. The lead agency should compare the odor parameters (i.e., distance and wind direction) associated with the odor complaints that have been filed with those of the proposed project.

### **Step 3: Significance Determination**

The results of the steps above should be compared to the lead agency's determined threshold for odor impacts. The factors (i.e., Step 1 through 3) discussed above could enhance the potential for a significant odor impact or help prevent the potential for a significant odor impact. For example, a project that would be located near an existing odor source may not discover any odor complaints for the existing odor source. It is possible that factors such as a small number of existing nearby receptors, predominate wind direction blowing away from the existing receptors, and/or seasonality of the odor source has prevented any odor complaints from being filed about the existing odor source. The results of each of the steps above should be clearly disclosed in the CEQA document. Projects should use the collective information from Steps 1 through 3 to qualitatively evaluate the potential for a significant odor impact. The lead agency should clearly state the reasoning for the significance determination using information from Steps 1 through 3 to support the determination.

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## **7.2. MITIGATING ODOR IMPACTS**

BAAQMD considers appropriate land use planning the primary method to mitigate odor impacts. Providing a sufficient buffer zone between sensitive receptors and odor sources should be considered prior to analyzing implementation of odor mitigation technology. Projects that would include potential sensitive receptors should consider the odor parameters, discussed in Step 1 above, during the planning process to avoid siting receptors near odor sources. Similarly, projects that would include an odor source should consider the location of nearby existing sensitive receptors that could be affected by the project.

The source types for which mitigation has been provided below have been selected based on the nature of the odors produced as a result of their operational activities. These land use types are those most likely to result in odor impacts if sensitive receptors are located in close proximity. This should not be considered an exhaustive list and due to the subjective nature of odor impacts, there is no formulaic method to assess if odor mitigation is sufficient. In determining whether the implementation of mitigation would reduce the potential odor impact to a less-than-significant level, rely on the information obtained through the steps above.

### **7.2.1. Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Main odor sources for wastewater treatment plants typically are the headworks area where the wastewater enters the facility and large solids and grit are removed, the primary clarifiers where suspended solids are removed, and the aeration basins when poor mixing characteristics lead to inadequate dissolved oxygen levels. Lead agencies should consider applying the following odor mitigation measures to wastewater treatment plants.

1. Activated Carbon Filter/Carbon adsorption
2. Biofiltration/Bio Trickling Filters
3. Fine Bubble Aerator
4. Hooded Enclosures
5. Wet and Dry Scrubbers
6. Caustic and Hypochlorite Chemical Scrubbers
7. Ammonia Scrubber

8. Energy Efficient Blower System
9. Thermal Oxidizer
10. Capping/Covering Storage Basins and Anaerobic Ponds
11. Mixed Flow Exhaust
12. Wastewater circulation technology
13. Exhaust stack and vent location with respect to receptors

### 7.2.2. Landfill/Recycling/Composting Facilities

Odors generated from landfills and composting facilities are typically associated with methane production from the anaerobic decomposition of waste. Lead agencies should consider applying the mitigation measures below to reduce and treat methane in facilities. Landfill projects should also implement best management practices to avoid and minimize the creation of anaerobic conditions.

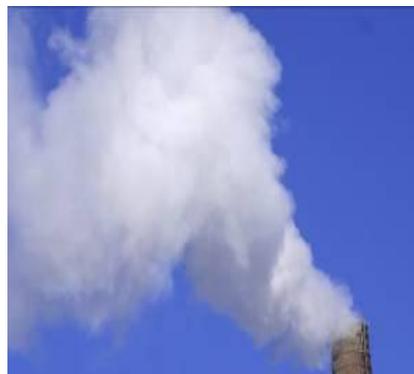
1. Passive Gas Collection
2. Active Gas Collection
3. Flaring or energy production/utilization
4. Vegetation Growth on Landfill Cover
5. Cover/Cap Landfill
6. Odor Neutralizing Spray
7. Negative aeration for compost facilities
8. Turning and mixing of compost piles

Facilities that are regulated by CalRecycle (e.g. landfill, composting, etc.) are required to have Odor Impact Minimization Plans (OIMP) in place and have procedures that establish fence line odor detection thresholds. The Air District recognizes a lead agency's discretion under CEQA to use established odor detection thresholds as thresholds of significance for CEQA review for CalRecycle regulated facilities with an adopted OIMP.

### 7.2.3. Petroleum Refinery

Odors generated from materials and processes associated with petroleum refineries include, but are not limited to, H<sub>2</sub>S, SO<sub>2</sub>, mercaptan, ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), and petroleum coke. Installing the following current and feasible odor mitigation measures for petroleum refineries should be considered.

1. Water Injections to Hydrocracking Process
2. Vapor recovery system
3. Injection of masking odorants into process streams
4. Flare meters and controls
5. Wastewater circulation technology for Aerated Ponds
6. Exhaust stack and vent location with respect to receptors
7. Thermal oxidizers
8. Carbon absorption
9. Biofiltration/Bio Trickling Filters



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#### **7.2.4. Chemical Plant**

Chemical plants can generate a variety of different odors (e.g., acrylates, phenols, and styrene) as a result of process emissions. The range of odor mitigation measures required for chemical plants may vary substantially depending on the type of odors produced. The odor mitigation measures could be applied to chemical plants.

1. Wet scrubbers (50–90 percent efficiency)
2. Catalytic oxidation (99 percent efficiency)
3. Thermal oxidation (90–99 percent efficiency)
4. Carbon adsorption (95 percent efficiency)
5. Exhaust stack and vent location with respect to receptors

#### **7.2.5. Food Services**

Restaurants, especially fast food restaurants, can generate substantial sources of odors as a result of cooking processes and waste disposal. Char broilers, deep-fryers, and ovens tend to produce food odors that can be considered offensive to some people. The food waste produced by restaurants can putrefy if not properly managed, which can also produce objectionable odors. The follow mitigation measures are management practices and odor technology that can be used to reduce the amount odors generated by food services.

1. Integral grease filtration system or grease removal system
2. Baffle filters
3. Electrostatic precipitator
4. Water cooling/cleaning unit
5. Disposable pleated or bag filters
6. Activated carbon filters
7. Oxidizing pellet beds
8. Incineration
9. Catalytic conversion
10. Proper packaging and frequency of food waste disposal
11. Exhaust stack and vent location with respect to receptors

In conclusion, odor impacts can also be minimized, contained, or prevented by implementing technologies and design measures at the source, or through planning-based measures. Where odor sources and receptors cannot be physically separated to a degree where impacts would be minimized to less-than-significant level, disclosures of odor sources to prospective tenants of sensitive land uses should be used. Mitigation for odors that is both effective and feasible should be selected on a case-by-case basis.





## 8. CONSTRUCTION-RELATED IMPACTS

Construction-related activities are those associated with the building of a single project or projects that are part of an adopted plan. Construction activities are typically short-term or temporary in duration; however, project-generated emissions could represent a significant impact with respect to air quality and/or global climate change. Construction-related activities generate criteria air pollutants including carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>); precursor emissions such as, reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>); and GHGs from exhaust, fugitive dust, and off-gas emissions. Sources of exhaust emissions could include on-road haul trucks, delivery trucks, worker commute motor vehicles, and off-road heavy-duty equipment. Sources of fugitive dust emissions could include construction-related activities such as soil disturbance, grading, and material hauling. Sources of off-gas emissions could include asphalt paving and the application of architectural coatings.

The recommendations provided in this chapter only apply to assessing and mitigating construction-related impacts for individual projects. Construction-related assumptions and project-specific information assumed in CEQA analyses should accompany the quantitative analysis described below. Refer to Chapter 9 for recommendations for assessing and mitigating construction-related impacts at the plan level.

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### 8.1. CRITERIA AIR POLLUTANTS AND PRECURSORS

#### 8.1.1. Significance Determination

##### **Step 1: Emissions Quantification**

BAAQMD recommends using URBEMIS to quantify construction emissions for proposed land use development projects and the Roadway Construction Emissions Model (RoadMod) for proposed linear projects such as, new roadway, roadway widening, or pipeline installation. The most current URBEMIS (currently version 9.2.4) should be used for emission quantification. Table 8-3 outlines summary guidelines for using URBEMIS. Refer to Appendix B for detailed instructions for modeling construction-generated emissions using URBEMIS and RoadMod.

##### **Step 2: Comparison of Unmitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Following quantification of project-generated construction-related emissions, the total average daily emissions of each criteria pollutant and precursor should be compared with the lead agency's determined project thresholds. If construction-related emissions have been quantified using multiple models or model runs, sum the criteria air pollutants and precursor levels from each where said activities would overlap. In cases where the exact timing of construction activities is not known, sum any phases that could overlap to be conservative.

If daily average emissions of construction-related criteria air pollutants or precursors do not exceed the lead agency's determined thresholds for the project, the project has a less-than-significant impact to air quality. If daily average emissions of construction-related criteria air pollutants or precursors do exceed project thresholds, the proposed project has a significant impact to air quality and requires mitigation measures for emission reductions.

##### **Step 3: Mitigation and Emission Reductions**

BAAQMD recommends the implementation of all *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* (Table 8.1) as mitigation for dust and exhaust construction impacts. In addition, all projects must implement any applicable air toxic control measures (ATCM). For example, projects that have the potential to disturb asbestos (from soil or building material) must comply with all the requirements of ARB's ATCM for Construction, Grading, Quarrying, and Surface Mining Operations. Only



reduction measures included in the proposed project's description or recommended as mitigation in a CEQA-compliant environmental document can be included when quantifying mitigated emission levels. Refer to Appendix B for detailed instructions on how to use URBEMIS to quantify the effects of construction emissions mitigation measures.

#### **Step 4: Comparison of Mitigated (Basic Mitigation) Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Following quantification of project-generated construction-related emissions, compare the total average daily amount of mitigated criteria air pollutants and precursors with the project's thresholds. If the implementation of BAAQMD-recommended *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* reduces all construction-related criteria air pollutants and precursors to levels below the project's thresholds, the impact to air quality would be less than significant. If emissions of any criteria air pollutant or precursor would exceed the project thresholds, the impact to air quality would be significant.

#### **Step 5: Implement Additional Construction Mitigation Measures**

Additional construction measures are listed in Table 8-2 if more mitigation is necessary. The methodology for quantifying reductions of fugitive PM dust, exhaust, and off gas emissions associated with the implementation of these mitigation measures is described in Appendix B.

#### **Step 6: Comparison of Mitigated Emissions with Thresholds of Significance**

Following quantification of project-generated construction-related emissions in accordance with the BAAQMD-recommended methods, compare the total average daily amount of mitigated criteria air pollutants and precursors with the project's thresholds. If the implementation of mitigation measures reduces all construction-related criteria air pollutants and precursors to levels below the project's thresholds, the impact to air quality is reduced to a less-than-significant level. If mitigated levels of any criteria air pollutant or precursor still exceed the project's thresholds, the impact to air quality remains significant and unavoidable.

### **8.1.2. Mitigating Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors**

#### **Basic Construction Mitigation Measures**

BAAQMD recommends implementing the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures*, and if necessary, the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures*, listed in Table 8-1 and 8-2 to mitigate construction impacts. Appendix B provides guidance on quantifying mitigated emission reductions using URBEMIS and RoadMod.



**Table 8-1**  
**Basic Construction Mitigation Measures**

1. All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.
2. All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
3. All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
4. All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.
5. All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
6. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
7. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified visible emissions evaluator.
8. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the lead agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.



**Table 8-2  
Additional Construction Mitigation Measures**

1. All exposed surfaces shall be watered at a frequency adequate to maintain minimum soil moisture of 12 percent. Moisture content can be verified by lab samples or moisture probe.
2. All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 mph.
3. Wind breaks (e.g., trees, fences) shall be installed on the windward side(s) of actively disturbed areas of construction. Wind breaks should have at maximum 50 percent air porosity.
4. Vegetative ground cover (e.g., fast-germinating native grass seed) shall be planted in disturbed areas as soon as possible and watered appropriately until vegetation is established.
5. The simultaneous occurrence of excavation, grading, and ground-disturbing construction activities on the same area at any one time shall be limited. Activities shall be phased to reduce the amount of disturbed surfaces at any one time.
6. All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off prior to leaving the site.
7. Site accesses to a distance of 100 feet from the paved road shall be treated with a 6 to 12 inch compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.
8. Sandbags or other erosion control measures shall be installed to prevent silt runoff to public roadways from sites with a slope greater than one percent.
9. Minimizing the idling time of diesel powered construction equipment to two minutes.
10. The project shall develop a plan demonstrating that the off-road equipment (more than 50 horsepower) to be used in the construction project (i.e., owned, leased, and subcontractor vehicles) would achieve a project wide fleet-average 20 percent NO<sub>x</sub> reduction and 45 percent PM reduction compared to the most recent ARB fleet average. Acceptable options for reducing emissions include the use of late model engines, low-emission diesel products, alternative fuels, engine retrofit technology, after-treatment products, add-on devices such as particulate filters, and/or other options as such become available.
11. Use low VOC (i.e., ROG) coatings beyond the local requirements (i.e., Regulation 8, Rule 3: Architectural Coatings).
12. Requiring that all construction equipment, diesel trucks, and generators be equipped with Best Available Control Technology for emission reductions of NO<sub>x</sub> and PM.
13. Requiring all contractors use equipment that meets CARB's most recent certification standard for off-road heavy duty diesel engines.



**Assessing Mitigation Measures**

Table 8-3 provides a summary of BAAQMD recommendations for assessing construction-related impacts and mitigation measures using URBEMIS. See Appendix B for additional guidance.

<b>Table 8-3 URBEMIS Guidance for Assessing Construction-Related Impacts</b>	
<b>URBEMIS Construction Input Parameter</b>	<b>Guidance Principle</b>
Land Use Type and Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select most applicable land use type.</li> <li>• Use the appropriate land use units.</li> </ul>
Construction Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the earliest possible commencement date(s) if project-specific information is unknown.</li> <li>• Overlap phases that will or have the potential to occur simultaneously.</li> <li>• Check the selected number of work days per week to ensure an accurate number of construction work days for each phase.</li> </ul>
Demolition Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a separate demolition URBEMIS run if the land use size to be developed differs from the land use size to be demolished.</li> <li>• Demolition fugitive dust is based on maximum daily volume of building to be demolished.</li> <li>• Demolition construction equipment is based on acres of land use to be demolished (in <i>Enter Land Use Data</i> module).</li> </ul>
Site Grading Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site grading construction equipment is based on maximum daily acres disturbed.</li> <li>• Enter project-specific maximum daily acres disturbed if known, otherwise URBEMIS assumes the maximum daily amount of acres disturbed is 25 percent of total acres disturbed.</li> </ul>
Site Grading Fugitive Dust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the appropriate fugitive dust quantification methodology based on the amount and type of project-specific information available.</li> <li>• The more specific grading information available will result in more accurate quantification of PM emissions.</li> </ul>
Asphalt Paving Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acres to be asphalt paved are based on land use type and size (in <i>Enter Land Use Data</i> module).</li> <li>• Asphalt paving construction equipment is based on total acres to be paved.</li> <li>• Assumes asphalt paving occurs at equal rate throughout phase.</li> <li>• Account for excess asphalt paving requirements of project beyond default assumptions by adjusting the acres to be paved.</li> </ul>
Architectural Coatings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assumes architectural coating operations occur at equal rate throughout phase.</li> </ul>
Basic Construction Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use surrogate URBEMIS mitigation to account for Basic Construction Mitigation Measures' emission reductions.</li> </ul>
Additional Construction Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use surrogate URBEMIS mitigation to account for Additional Construction Mitigation Measures' emission reductions.</li> </ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all construction phases, the more specific information available will result in more accurate emissions quantification.</li> <li>• When a specific construction schedule is unknown, all phases that could potentially overlap should be added to calculate maximum daily emissions.</li> </ul>

**8.2. GREENHOUSE GASES**

Lead agencies should quantify and disclose GHG emissions that would occur during construction, and make a determination on the significance of these construction-generated GHG emission



impacts. BAAQMD recommends using URBEMIS for proposed land use development projects and RoadMod for proposed projects that are linear in nature. Sources of construction-related GHGs include exhaust, for which the same detailed guidance as described for criteria air pollutants and precursors should be followed.

Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate best management practices to reduce GHG emissions during construction, as applicable. Best management practices may include, but are not limited to: using alternative fueled (e.g., biodiesel, electric) construction vehicles/equipment of at least 15 percent of the fleet; using local building materials of at least 10 percent; and recycling or reusing at least 50 percent of construction waste or demolition materials.

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### 8.3. TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS

BAAQMD has developed guidance for estimating risk and hazards impacts entitled *Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards* that includes recommendations for mitigation of significant risk and hazards impacts.

BAAQMD recommends that for construction projects that are less than one year duration, lead agencies should annualize impacts over the scope of actual days that peak impacts are to occur, rather than the full year.

#### 8.3.1. Diesel Particulate Matter

Construction-related activities could result in the generation of TACs, specifically diesel PM, from on-road haul trucks and off-road equipment exhaust emissions. Due to the variable nature of construction activity, the generation of TAC emissions in most cases would be temporary, especially considering the short amount of time such equipment is typically within an influential distance that would result in the exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations. Concentrations of mobile-source diesel PM emissions are typically reduced by 70 percent at a distance of approximately 500 feet (ARB 2005). In addition, current models and methodologies for conducting health risk assessments are associated with longer-term exposure periods of 9, 40, and 70 years, which do not correlate well with the temporary and highly variable nature of construction activities. This results in difficulties with producing accurate estimates of health risk. However, these variability issues associated with construction do not necessarily minimize the significance of possible impacts.

The analysis should disclose the following about construction-related activities:

1. Types of off-site receptors and their proximity to construction activity;
2. Duration of construction period;
3. Quantity and types of diesel-powered equipment;
4. Number of hours equipment would be operated each day;
5. Location(s) of equipment use, distance to nearest off-site sensitive receptors, and orientation with respect to the predominant wind direction;
6. Location of equipment staging area; and
7. Amount of on-site diesel-generated PM<sub>2.5</sub> exhaust (assuming that all on-site diesel PM<sub>2.5</sub> exhaust is diesel PM) if mass emission levels from construction activity are estimated.

In cases where construction-generated emissions of diesel PM are anticipated to occur in close proximity to sensitive receptors for extended periods of time, lead agencies are encouraged to consult with BAAQMD.



### **8.3.2. Demolition and Renovation of Asbestos-Containing Materials**

Demolition of existing buildings and structures would be subject to BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing). BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 is intended to limit asbestos emissions from demolition or renovation of structures and the associated disturbance of asbestos-containing waste material generated or handled during these activities. The rule addresses the national emissions standards for asbestos along with some additional requirements. The rule requires the lead agency and its contractors to notify BAAQMD of any regulated renovation or demolition activity. This notification includes a description of structures and methods utilized to determine whether asbestos-containing materials are potentially present. All asbestos-containing material found on the site must be removed prior to demolition or renovation activity in accordance with BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2, including specific requirements for surveying, notification, removal, and disposal of material containing asbestos. Therefore, projects that comply with Regulation 11, Rule 2 would ensure that asbestos-containing materials would be disposed of appropriately and safely.

### **8.3.3. Naturally Occurring Asbestos**

Naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) was identified as a TAC in 1986 by ARB. NOA is located in many parts of California and is commonly associated with ultramafic rocks, according to the California Department of Geology's special publication titled Guidelines for Geologic Investigations of Naturally Occurring Asbestos in California. Asbestos is the common name for a group of naturally occurring fibrous silicate minerals that can separate into thin but strong and durable fibers. Ultramafic rocks form in high-temperature environments well below the surface of the earth. By the time they are exposed at the surface by geologic uplift and erosion, ultramafic rocks may be partially to completely altered into a type of metamorphic rock called serpentinite. Sometimes the metamorphic conditions are right for the formation of chrysotile asbestos or tremolite-actinolite asbestos in the bodies of these rocks, along their boundaries, or in the soil.

For individuals living in areas of NOA, there are many potential pathways for airborne exposure. Exposures to soil dust containing asbestos can occur under a variety of scenarios, including children playing in the dirt; dust raised from unpaved roads and driveways covered with crushed serpentine; grading and earth disturbance associated with construction activity; quarrying; gardening; and other human activities. For homes built on asbestos outcroppings, asbestos can be tracked into the home and can also enter as fibers suspended in the air. Once such fibers are indoors, they can be entrained into the air by normal household activities, such as vacuuming (as many respirable fibers will simply pass through vacuum cleaner bags).

People exposed to low levels of asbestos may be at elevated risk (e.g., above background rates) of lung cancer and mesothelioma. The risk is proportional to the cumulative inhaled dose (quantity of fibers), and also increases with the time since first exposure. Although there are a number of factors that influence the disease-causing potency of any given asbestos (such as fiber length and width, fiber type, and fiber chemistry), all forms are carcinogens.

### **8.3.4. Mitigating Naturally Occurring Asbestos**

BAAQMD enforces CARB's ATCM which regulates NOA emissions from grading, quarrying, and surface mining operations at sites which contain ultramafic rock. The provisions that cover these operations are found specifically in the California Code of Regulations, Section 93105. The ATCM for Construction, Grading, Quarrying and Surface Mining Operations was signed into State law on July 22, 2002, and became effective in the SFBAAB on November 19, 2002. The purpose of this regulation is to reduce public exposure to NOA from construction and mining activities that emit or re-suspend dust which may contain NOA.

The ATCM requires regulated operations engaged in road construction and maintenance activities, construction and grading operations, and quarrying and surface mining operations in



areas where NOA is likely to be found, to employ the best available dust mitigation measures to reduce and control dust emissions. Tables 8-1 and 8-2 list a number of dust mitigation measures for construction.

BAAQMD's NOA program requires that the applicable notification forms from the Air District's website be submitted by qualifying operations in accordance with the procedures detailed in the ATCM Inspection Guidelines Policies and Procedures. The lead agency should reference BAAQMD's ATCM Policies and Procedures to determine which NOA Notification Form is applicable to the proposed project ([NOA Notification Forms](#)).

Using the geologic map of the SFBAAB ([Geologic Map](#)), the lead agency should discuss whether a proposed project would be located in "areas moderately likely to contain NOA." If a project would not involve earth-disturbing construction activity in one of these areas or would not locate receptors in one of these areas then it can be assumed that the project would not have the potential to expose people to airborne asbestos particles.



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## PART III: ASSESSING & MITIGATING PLAN LEVEL IMPACTS

### 9. PLAN-LEVEL IMPACTS

Long range plans (e.g., general plan, redevelopment plans, specific plans, area plans, community plans, regional plans, congestion management plans, etc.) present unique challenges for assessing impacts. These plans often contain development strategies for 20-year, or longer, time horizons. They can also provide for a wide range of potential land uses and densities that accommodate all types of development. General plan updates and large specific plans nearly always require the lead agency to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Due to the SFBAAB's nonattainment status for ozone and PM, and the



cumulative impacts of growth on air quality, these plans almost always have significant, unavoidable adverse air quality impacts. CEQA requires the lead agency to evaluate individual as well as cumulative impacts of general plans, and all feasible mitigation measures must be incorporated within the proposed plan to reduce significant air quality impacts.

This chapter provides guidance on methods to evaluate air quality and climate change impacts of long-range plans prepared within the SFBAAB pursuant to CEQA. The term *general and area plan* refers broadly to discretionary planning activities which may include, but are not limited to the following: general plans, redevelopment plans, specific plans, area plans, community plans, congestion management plans, and annexations of lands and service areas. General and area plans are often subject to program-level analysis under CEQA, as opposed to project-level analysis. As a general principle, the guidance offered within this chapter should be applied to discretionary, program-level planning activities; whereas the project-level guidance offered in other chapters should be applied to individual project-specific approvals, such as a proposed development project.

Air quality impacts from future development pursuant to general or area plans can be divided into construction-related impacts and operational-related impacts. Construction-related impacts are associated with construction activities likely to occur in conjunction with future development allocated by the plan. Operational-related impacts are associated with continued and future operation of developed land uses, including increased vehicle trips and energy use.

Please note that the plan-level approach described here differs for greenhouse gas (GHG) impact assessments. BAAQMD recommends that when assessing GHG impacts for plans other than regional plans (transportation and air quality plans) and general plans, the methodology is the same as project-level GHG impact assessments described in Chapter 4. Regional plan (transportation and air quality plans) impacts are assessed differently because of their unique characteristics (regional plans do not establish land use designations).



## 9.1. CRITERIA AIR POLLUTANTS AND PRECURSOR EMISSIONS

CEQA requires lead agencies to determine whether a project is consistent with all applicable air quality plans. The State CEQA Guidelines sample Environmental Checklist Form (Appendix G), poses the question: “Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?” To date, the Air District’s most current plan is the 2010 Clean Air Plan.

In order to make the required determination, lead agencies could consider the following questions.

### 1. Does the project support the primary goals of the AQP?

The primary goals of the 2010 Bay Area Clean Air Plan (CAP), the current AQP to date, are to:

- Attain air quality standards;
- Reduce population exposure and protecting public health in the Bay Area; and
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

Any project (i.e. project or plan) that would not support these goals would not be considered consistent with the 2010 CAP. If approval of a project would not result in significant and unavoidable air quality impacts, after the application of all feasible mitigation, the project may be considered consistent with the 2010 CAP.

### 2. Does the project include applicable control measures from the AQP?

Agencies approving projects should require that they include all air quality plan control measures that can feasibly be incorporated into the project design or applied as mitigation, or justify the reasons, supported by substantial evidence, why a measure or measures are not incorporated into the project. Projects that incorporate all feasible air quality plan control measures may be considered consistent with the 2010 CAP.

The 2010 CAP contains 55 control measures aimed at reducing air pollution in the Bay Area. Along with the traditional stationary, area, mobile source and transportation control measures, the 2010 CAP contains a number of new control measures designed to protect the climate and promote mixed use, compact development to reduce vehicle emissions and exposure to pollutants from stationary and mobile sources. BAAQMD encourages project developers and lead agencies to incorporate these Land Use and Local Impact (LUM) measures and Energy and Climate measures (ECM) into proposed project designs and plan elements.

Refer to Volume II of the 2010 CAP Control Measure for a list of all the control measures and implementation guidance.

### 3. Does the project disrupt or hinder implementation of any AQP control measures?

If approval of a project would not cause the disruption, delay or otherwise hinder the implementation of any air quality plan control measure, it may be considered consistent with the 2010 CAP. Examples of how a project may cause the disruption or delay of control measures include a project that precludes an extension of a transit line or bike path, or proposes excessive parking beyond parking requirements.



## 9.2. GREENHOUSE GASES

California's legislative mandate (AB 32) is to reduce total projected 2020 GHG emissions to 1990 levels, a reduction of approximately 30 percent. To achieve this target, future development must be planned and implemented in the most GHG-efficient manner possible. GHG-efficient development reduces vehicle miles traveled by supporting compact, dense, mixed-use, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly, transit oriented development. State, regional and local agencies are strongly encouraged to address GHG emissions when updating and/or adopting long-range plans. For local jurisdictions, the general plan is perhaps the best venue for addressing GHG emissions in making meaningful progress toward attaining AB 32 goals while addressing CEQA requirements.



### **Step 1. Emissions Quantification**

BAAQMD recommends quantifying community-wide GHG emissions from a general plan through development of a GHG emissions inventory and projections report. The emissions inventory should be conducted for a base year at or before the current year of the plan; and should follow published ARB protocols for municipal and community-wide inventories (when available). The base year inventory should be expressed in terms of metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions and account for municipal and community-wide emission sectors applicable in the jurisdiction such as, transportation, commercial, residential, water use and treatment, solid waste, and agriculture. BAAQMD's *GHG Plan Level Quantification Guidance* contains detailed recommendations for developing GHG emission inventories and projections. This document is available at BAAQMD's website, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>.



Section 4.3 contains additional guidance on preparing a GHG emissions inventory and projections report for a climate action plan that should be applied to general plans as well. A range of tools and resources are available to assist lead agencies in completing inventories, including the Air District's *GHG Plan Level Quantification Guidance*, [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\) Emissions Inventory Guidelines](#), the California Climate Action Registry's General Reporting Protocol and [ICLEI's Clean Air and Climate Protection \(CACCP\) model](#). In all instances where regional, statewide or national data sources are available, BAAQMD recommends that local data be used if available and more accurate.



### **Step 2. Prepare Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections**

BAAQMD recommends preparing a community-wide GHG emission projection to identify the expected levels of GHG emissions for the projected year of the plan build out. Two projections should be prepared for each year:

- A projection reflecting existing conditions (e.g., business-as-usual), and
- A projection that accounts for proposed policies, programs, and plans included within the general plan that would reduce GHG emissions from build-out of the plan.

The first projection should be used as the basis for evaluation of the no project alternative in the plan's EIR. The second projection should be used as the basis for evaluation of the proposed project. Additional projections corresponding to plan alternatives considered within the EIR should also be prepared and included within the EIR's alternatives analysis. Examples of policies, performance standards and implementation measures are included in Section 9.6.

Where possible, emission projections should account for population and employment growth rates published by ABAG, VMT growth rates available from MTC, energy consumption growth rates available from California Energy Commission (CEC) planned expansions of municipal infrastructure or services, and anticipated statewide legislative requirements or mandates (e.g., Renewable Energy Portfolio, Green Building Code Standards, on-road vehicle emission regulations).

A range of GIS-based planning models are available that can assist lead agencies in completing projections, including [Index](#), [PLACE3S](#), [UPlan](#), and the Sustainable Systems Integration Model (SSIM). The projection should be expressed in metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions, and include the expected municipal and community-wide emissions across all sectors evaluated in the base year inventory.

### **Step 3. Mitigation Measures**

General or area plans found to have a significant impact should implement all feasible mitigation measures to reduce impacts. Refer to Section 9.5 for examples of appropriate mitigation measures for operational impacts relative to GHG emissions. Mitigation measures identified through the environmental review process must be made into binding and enforceable policies and implementation programs within the long range plan.

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## **9.3. LOCAL COMMUNITY RISK AND HAZARD IMPACTS**

ARB's Land Use Handbook offers advisory recommendations for locating sensitive receptors near uses associated with TACs, such as freeways and high-traffic roads, commercial distribution centers, rail yards, ports, refineries, chrome platers, dry cleaners, gasoline stations, and other industrial facilities, to reduce exposure of sensitive populations. The lead agency should refer to this handbook when evaluating whether the proposed general or area plan includes adequate buffer distances between TAC sources and sensitive receptors.

Lead agencies should consider creating a land use diagram that identifies existing and planned sources of TACS.

### **9.3.1. Plan to Reduce Risks and Hazards**

Lead agencies could consider a plan-based approach to addressing risk and hazards. The goal of a plan would be to bring TAC and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations for the entire community covered by the Plan down to acceptable levels as identified by the local jurisdiction. This approach provides local agencies a proactive alternative to addressing communities with high levels of risk on a project-



by-project approach and may permit CEQA tiering pursuant to section 21094 in the state CEQA Guidelines.

A plan to address toxic air contaminants and PM<sub>2.5</sub> adopted by a local jurisdiction would likely include the following elements:

- (A) Define a planning area;
- (B) Base year and future year emissions inventories of TACs and PM<sub>2.5</sub>;
- (C) Risk modeling of current and future risks;
- (D) Risk and exposure reduction goals and targets for the community;
- (E) Feasible, quantifiable, and verifiable measures to reduce emissions and exposures;
- (F) Procedures for monitoring and updating the inventory, modeling and reduction measures; and
- (G) Adopted in a public process following environmental review.

BAAQMD developed a guidance document for addressing risk and hazards through a plan-based approach, available on the Districts' website.

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#### **9.4. ODOR IMPACTS**

Plans should identify the location of existing and planned odor sources in the plan area and policies to reduce potential odor impacts in the plan area.

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#### **9.5. REGIONAL PLANS**

Regional plans include the Regional Transportation Plan prepared by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and air quality plans prepared by the Air District. Agencies should compare the regional plan's baseline emissions with its projected future emissions to analyze any potential increase in emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors, GHGs, and toxic air contaminants.

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#### **9.6. MITIGATING PLAN-LEVEL IMPACTS**

Plans often have significant, unavoidable adverse air quality impacts due to the SFBAAB's nonattainment status and the cumulative impacts of growth on air quality. In addition, plans generally have long-term planning horizons of twenty years or more. For these reasons, it is essential for plans to incorporate all feasible strategies and measures to reduce air quality impacts. Mitigation measures for plans are often broad in scope due to the long timeframe and comprehensive nature of general and area plan policies and programs.



This section contains mitigation measures recommended for plans prepared within the SFBAAB. Measures are identified by state-required general plan element, planning issue, development phase, and type of air quality impact. Proposed plans should incorporate mitigation measures applicable to their elements and planning issues.

Plans are the appropriate place to establish community-wide air quality policies that reinforce regional air quality plans. Plans present opportunities to establish requirements for new construction, future development, and redevelopment projects within a community that will ensure new or revised plans do not inhibit attainment of state and national air quality standards and actually assist in improving local and regional air quality. Binding, enforceable mitigation measures identified through the environmental review process should be incorporated as policies and implementation programs within the plan to the greatest extent feasible. Ideally, air quality related goals, policies, performance measures and standards should be incorporated within the context of the proposed project itself, rather than introduced as corrective actions within the proposed project's EIR. The list below is not intended to serve as an exhaustive list. The Air District also recommends that Lead Agencies refer to CAPCOA's reports, *Model Policies for Greenhouse Gases in General Plans* (June 2009) for additional guidance (<http://www.capcoa.org/modelpolicies/CAPCOA-ModelPolicies-6-12-09-915am.pdf>) and *Quantifying GHG Mitigation Measures*.



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### 9.6.1. Land Use Element

#### Urban Form

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Create and enhance landscaped greenway, trail, and sidewalk connections between neighborhoods, commercial areas, activity centers, and parks.					X	X		
Adopt policies supporting infill development					X	X		
Ensure that proposed land uses are supported by a multi-modal transportation system and that the land uses themselves support the development of the transportation system.					X	X		
Designate a central city core for high-density and mixed-use development.					X	X		
Discourage high intensity office and commercial uses from locating outside of designated centers or downtowns, or far from residential areas and transit stations.					X	X		
Provide financial incentives and density bonuses to entice development within the designated central city.					X	X		



Provide public education about benefits of well-designed, higher-density housing and relationships between land use and transportation.					X	X		
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**Compact Development**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Achieve a jobs/housing balance or improve the jobs/housing ratio within the plan area.					X	X		
Create incentives to attract mixed-use projects to older commercial and industrial areas.					X	X		
Adopt incentives for the concurrent development of retail, office, and residential land uses within mixed-use projects or areas. Require mixed-use development to include ground-floor retail.					X	X		
Provide adaptive re-use alternatives to demolition of historic buildings. Provide incentives to prevent demolition of historic buildings.	X	X			X	X		
Facilitate lot consolidation that promotes integrated development with improved pedestrian and vehicular access.					X	X		
Reinvest in existing neighborhoods and promote infill development as a preference over new, greenfield development.					X	X		
Ensure that new development finances the full cost of expanding public infrastructure and services to provide an economic incentive for incremental expansion.					X	X		
Require new developments to extend sewer and water lines from existing systems or to be in conformance with a master sewer and water plan.	X	X			X	X		

**Transit-oriented Design**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Require all development projects proposed within 2,000 feet of an existing or planned light rail transit, commuter rail, express bus, or transit corridor stop, to incorporate site design measures that enhance the efficiency of the transit system.					X	X		
Develop transit/pedestrian-oriented design guidelines. Identify and designate appropriate sites during general plan updates and amendments.					X	X		
Plan areas within ¼-mile of locations identified as transit hubs and commercial centers for higher density development.					X	X		



**Sustainable Development**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Ensure new construction complies with California Green Building Code Standards and local green building ordinances.					X	X		
Promote re-use of previously developed property, construction materials, and/or vacant sites within a built-up area.					X	X		
Avoid development of isolated residential areas near hillsides or other areas where such development would require significant infrastructure investment or adversely impact biological resources.						X		
Require orientation of buildings to maximize passive solar heating during cool seasons, avoid solar heat gain during hot periods, enhance natural ventilation, and promote effective use of daylight. Orientation should optimize opportunities for on-site solar generation.					X	X		
Provide land area zoned for commercial and industrial uses to support a mix of retail, office, professional, service, and manufacturing businesses.					X	X		
Provide permitting incentives for energy efficient and solar building projects.					X	X		
Develop a joint powers agreement or other legal instrument that provides incentive for counties to discourage urban commercial development in unincorporated areas and promote urban infill and redevelopment projects.					X	X		

**Activity Centers**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Provide pedestrian amenities, traffic-calming features, plazas and public areas, attractive streetscapes, shade trees, lighting, and retail stores at activity centers.					X	X		
Provide for a mix of complementary retail uses to be located together to create activity centers and commercial districts serving adjacent neighborhoods.					X	X		
Permit upper-story residential and office uses in neighborhood shopping areas.					X	X		
Provide pedestrian links between commercial districts and neighborhoods.					X	X		
Provide benches, streetlights, public art, and other amenities in activity centers to attract pedestrians.					X	X		



**Green Economy and Businesses**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Work with businesses to encourage employee transit subsidies and shuttles from transit stations.					X	X		
Encourage businesses to participate in local green business programs.					X	X		
Offer incentives to attract businesses to city core and infill areas.					X	X		
Work to attract green businesses and promote local green job training programs.					X	X		
Support regional collaboration to strengthen the green economy.					X	X		
Provide outreach and education to local businesses on energy, waste, and water conservation benefits and cost savings.					X	X		
Support innovative energy technology companies.					X	X		

**9.6.2. Circulation Element**

**Local Circulation**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Create or reinforce a grid street pattern with small block sizes and maintain high connectivity within the roadway network.					X	X		
Implement circulation improvements that reduce vehicle idling, such as signal timing systems and controlled intersections.					X	X	X	
Consider alternatives such as increasing public transit or improving bicycle or pedestrian travel routes before funding transportation improvements that increase VMT.					X	X		
Require payment of transportation impact fees and/or roadway and transit improvements as a condition upon new development.					X	X		
Minimize use of cul-de-sacs and incomplete roadway segments.					X	X		
Actively promote walking as a safe mode of local travel, particularly for children attending local schools.					X	X		
Consult with school districts, private schools, and other operators to coordinate local busing, to expand ride-sharing programs, and to replace older diesel buses with low or zero emission vehicles.					X	X	X	
Evaluate all busing options as a preferential strategy to roadway improvements in the vicinity of schools to ease congestion.					X	X		
Establish public/private partnerships to develop satellite and neighborhood work centers for telecommuting.					X	X		
Employ traffic calming methods such as median landscaping and provision of bike or transit lanes to slow traffic, improve roadway capacity, and address safety issues.					X	X		
Support the use of electric vehicles where appropriate. Provide electric recharge facilities.					X	X		



**Regional Transportation**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Ensure that submittals of transportation improvement projects to be included in regional transportation plans (RTP, RTIP, CMP, etc.) are consistent with the air quality goals and policies of the general plan.					X	X		
Consult with adjacent jurisdictions to address the impacts of regional development patterns on the circulation system.					X	X		
Adopt a (or implement the existing) Transportation Demand Management Ordinance.					X	X		
Create financing programs for the purchase or lease of vehicles used in employer ride sharing programs.					X	X		
Consult with adjacent jurisdictions to maintain adequate service levels at shared intersections and to provide adequate capacity on regional routes for through traffic.					X	X		
Work to provide a strong paratransit system that promotes the mobility of all residents and educate residents about local mobility choices.					X	X		
Designate sites for park-and-ride lots. Consider funding of the park and ride lots as mitigation during CEQA review of residential development projects.					X	X		
Consult with appropriate transportation agencies and major employers to establish express buses and vanpools to increase the patronage of park and ride lots.					X	X		
Allow developers to reach agreements with auto-oriented shopping center owners to use commercial parking lots as park-and-ride lots and multimodal transfer sites.					X	X		

**Parking**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Reduce parking for private vehicles while increasing options for alternative transportation.					X	X		
Eliminate minimum parking requirements for new development.					X	X		
Establish commercial district parking fees.					X	X		
Require that parking is paid for separately and is not included in rent for residential or commercial space.					X	X		
Encourage parking sharing between different land uses.					X	X		
Encourage businesses to offer parking cash-outs to employees.					X	X		
Encourage parking assessment districts.					X	X		
Encourage car-share and bike-share programs and dedicated parking spaces in new development.					X	X		
Support preferential parking for low emission and carpool vehicles					X	X		



**Bicycles and Pedestrians**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Provide safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle connections to and from activity centers, commercial districts, offices, neighborhoods, schools, other major activity centers.					X	X		
Ensure that non-motorized transportation systems are connected and not interrupted by impassable barriers, such as freeways.					X	X		
Provide pedestrian pathways that are well-shaded and pleasantly landscaped to encourage use.					X	X		
Consult with transit providers to increase the number of bicycles that can be accommodated on buses.					X	X		
Provide crosswalks and sidewalks along streets that are accessible for people with disabilities and people who are physically challenged.					X	X		
Prohibit on-street parking to reduce bicycle/automobile conflicts in appropriate target areas.					X	X		
Prohibit projects that impede bicycle and walking access.					X	X		
Retrofit abandoned rail corridors as segments of a bikeway and pedestrian trail system.					X	X		
Require commercial developments and business centers to include bicycle amenities in building such as bicycle racks, showers, and lockers.					X	X		

**Regional Rail Transit**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Support regional rail service and consult with rail operators to expand services.					X	X		
Create activity centers and transit-oriented development projects near transit stations.					X	X		

**Local and Regional Bus Transit**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Give funding preference to investment in public transit over investment in infrastructure for private automobile traffic.					X	X		
Establish a local shuttle service to connect neighborhoods, commercial centers, and public facilities to rail transit.					X	X		
Empower seniors and those with physical disabilities who desire maximum personal freedom and independence of lifestyle with unimpeded access to public transportation.					X	X		
Provide transit shelters that are comfortable, attractive, and accommodate transit riders. Ensure that shelters provide shade, route information, benches and lighting.					X	X		
Design all arterial and collector streets planned as transit routes to allow for the efficient operation of public transit.					X	X		
Require transit providers to coordinate intermodal time schedules					X	X		



**9.6.3. Conservation Element**

**Municipal Operations**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Replace existing City vehicles with ultra-low or zero emission vehicles and purchase new low emission vehicles.					X	X		
Require that all new government buildings, and all major renovations and additions, meet identified green building standards.					X	X		
Install cost-effective renewable energy systems on all city buildings and purchase remaining electricity from renewable sources.					X	X		
Support the use of teleconferencing in lieu of city/county employee travel to conferences and meetings when feasible.					X	X		
Require city/county departments to set up telecommuting programs as part of their trip reduction strategies.					X	X		
Require environmentally responsible government purchasing. Require or give preference to products that reduce or eliminate indirect GHG emissions.						X		
Investigate the feasibility of using solar (photovoltaic) street lights instead of conventional street lights to conserve energy.					X	X		
Support investment in cost-effective land use and transportation modeling and geographic information system technology.					X	X	X	X
Install LED lighting for all traffic light systems.						X		
Implement a timed traffic light system to reduce idling.					X	X		



**Air Quality – Sensitive Receptors**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Develop and adopt a plan to evaluate and reduce risks and hazards that includes: baseline inventory of TAC and PM <sub>2.5</sub> emissions from all sources, emissions reduction targets, and enforceable emission reduction strategies and performance measures. The plan should include enforcement and monitoring tools to ensure regular review of progress toward the emission reduction targets, report progress to the public and responsible agencies, and revise the plan as appropriate.			X				X	
Require residential development projects and projects categorized as sensitive receptors to be located an adequate distance from existing and potential sources of TACs and odors.				X			X	X
Require new air pollution point sources such as, but not limited to, industrial, manufacturing, and processing facilities to be located an adequate distance from residential areas and other sensitive receptors.	X		X	X	X		X	X
Consult with BAAQMD to identify TAC sources and determine the need for and requirements of a health risk assessment for proposed developments.			X	X			X	X
Consult with project proponents during the pre-application review process to avoid inappropriate uses at affected sites and during the environmental review process for general plan amendments and general plan updates.					X		X	X
Require project proponents to prepare health risk assessments in accordance with BAAQMD-recommended procedures as part of environmental review when the proposed project has associated air-toxic emissions.			X				X	
Designate adequate industrial land in areas downwind and well-separated from sensitive uses.							X	X
Designate non-sensitive land uses for areas surrounding industrial sites.					X		X	X
Protect vacant industrial sites from encroachment by residential or other sensitive uses through appropriate zoning.					X		X	X
Require indoor air quality equipment, such as enhanced air filters, to be installed at schools, residences, and other sensitive receptor uses located near pollution sources.							X	X
Quantify the existing and added health risks to new sensitive receptors or for new sources.							X	
Utilize pollution absorbing trees and vegetation in buffer areas.					X	X	X	



**Air Quality – PM<sub>10</sub> and Dust Control**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Include PM <sub>10</sub> control measures as conditions of approval for subdivision maps, site plans, and grading permits.	X				X			
Minimize vegetation removal required for fire prevention.	X				X			
Require alternatives to discing, such as mowing, to the extent feasible. Where vegetation removal is required for aesthetic or property maintenance purposes, encourage or require alternatives to discing.	X	X			X	X		
Require subdivision designs and site planning to minimize grading and use landform grading in hillside areas.	X							
Condition grading permits to require that graded areas be stabilized from the completion of grading to commencement of construction.	X							
Require all access roads, driveways, and parking areas serving new commercial and industrial development to be constructed with materials that minimize particulate emissions and are appropriate to the scale and intensity of use.	X							
Develop a street cleaning program aimed at removing heavy silt loadings from roadways that result from sources such as storm water runoff and construction sites.	X				X			
Pave shoulders and pave or landscape medians. Curb and gutter installation may provide additional benefits where paving is contiguous to the curb.	X	X			X	X		

**Water Conservation**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Require residential remodels and renovations to improve plumbing fixture and fixture-fitting water efficiency by an established amount above the California Building Standards Code water efficiency standards.		X						
Provide water use audits to identify conservation opportunities and financial incentives for adopting identified efficiency measures.		X						
Require use of native and drought-tolerant plants, proper soil preparation, and efficient irrigation systems for landscaping.		X				X		
Maximize use of native, low-water plants for landscaping of areas adjacent to sidewalks or other impermeable surfaces.		X				X		
Increase use of recycled and reclaimed water for landscaping projects.		X				X		
Adopt a water-efficient landscaping ordinance and implement the Bay-Friendly Landscaping Guidelines established by StopWaste.org.						X		
Provide public water conservation education.						X		
Reduce pollutant runoff from new development through use of Best Management Practices.	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Minimize impervious surfaces and associated urban runoff pollutants in new development and reuse projects.	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Utilize permeable surfaces and green roof technologies where appropriate.					X	X	X	



**Energy Conservation**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Conduct energy efficiency audits of existing buildings by checking, repairing, and readjusting heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and lighting, water heating equipment, insulation and weatherization. Offer financial incentives for adoption of identified efficiency measures.		X				X		
Require implementation of energy-efficient design features in new development, including appropriate site orientation, exceedance of Title 24, use of light color roofing and building materials, and use of evergreen and wind-break trees to reduce heating and cooling fuel consumption.		X				X		
Adopt residential and commercial energy efficiency retrofit ordinances that require upgrades as a condition of issuing permits for renovations or additions, and on the sale of residences and buildings.		X				X		
Facilitate cooperation between neighboring development projects to use on-site renewable energy supplies or combined heat and power co-generation facilities.		X				X		
Develop a comprehensive renewable energy financing and informational program for residential and commercial uses.		X				X		
Partner with community services agencies to fund energy efficiency projects for low income residents.		X				X		
Encourage the installation of energy efficient fireplaces in lieu of normal open-hearth fireplaces. Prohibit installation of wood burning devices.	X	X			X	X		
Provide natural gas lines or electrical outlets to backyards to encourage the use of natural gas or electric barbecues, and electric gardening equipment.	X				X			
Implement Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) for renewable electricity generation.		X				X		

**Solid Waste**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Achieve established local and regional waste-reduction and diversion goals. Adopt more stringent waste reduction goals.		X				X		
Establish programs that enable residents to donate or recycle surplus furniture, old electronics, clothing, and other household items.		X				X		
Establish methane recovery in local landfills and wastewater treatment plants to generate electricity.		X				X		
Participate or initiate a composting program for restaurants and residences.						X		
Implement recycling programs for businesses and construction waste.	X	X			X	X		
Prohibit styrofoam containers and plastic bag use by businesses.					X	X		



### 9.6.4. Open Space Element

#### Community Forestry

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Require inclusion of low VOC-emitting street trees and landscaping for all development projects.		X				X		
Require that trees larger than a specified diameter that are removed to accommodate development must be replaced at a set ratio.		X				X		
Provide adequate funding to manage and maintain the existing community forest, including sufficient funds for tree planting, pest control, scheduled pruning, and removal and replacement of dead trees.		X				X		
Provide public education regarding the benefits of street trees and the community forest.		X				X		

#### Sustainable Agriculture

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Require agricultural practices be conducted in a manner that minimizes harmful effects on soils, air and water quality, and marsh and wildlife habitat. Sustainable agricultural practices should be addressed in climate action plans to address climate change effects if relevant.	X	X			X	X		
Preserve forested areas, agricultural lands, wildlife habitat and corridors, wetlands, watersheds, groundwater recharge areas and other open spaces that provide carbon sequestration benefits.	X	X			X	X		
Establish a mitigation program for establishing conservation areas. Impose mitigation fees on development of such lands and use funds generated to protect existing, or create replacement, conservation areas.	X	X			X	X		
Require no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping, and residue farming.	X	X			X	X		
Require the use of appropriate vegetation within urban-agricultural buffer areas.		X				X		
Protect grasslands from conversion to non-agricultural uses.	X	X			X	X		
Support energy production activities that are compatible with agriculture, including biogas, wind and solar.		X				X		
Allow alternative energy projects in areas zoned for agriculture or open space where consistent with primary uses.		X				X		
Provide spaces within the community suitable for farmers markets.						X		
Promote local produce and garden programs at schools.						X		



**Parks and Recreation**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Expand and improve community recreation amenities including parks, pedestrian trails and connections to regional trail facilities.						X		
Require payment of park fees and/or dedication and provision of parkland, recreation facilities and/or multi-use trails as a condition upon new development.		X				X		
Encourage development of pocket parks in neighborhoods. Improve equal accessibility to park space across communities.		X				X		
Encourage joint use of parks with schools and community centers and facilities.		X				X		

**9.6.5. Housing Element**

**Affordable Housing**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Ensure a portion of future residential development is affordable to low and very low income households.		X				X		
Target local funds, including redevelopment and Community Development or Energy Efficiency Block Grant resources, to assist affordable housing developers in incorporating energy efficient designs and features.						X		
Adopt minimum residential densities in areas designated for transit-oriented, mixed use development to ensure higher density in these areas.					X	X		
Consult with the Housing Authority, transit providers, and developers to facilitate construction of low-income housing developments that employ transit-oriented and pedestrian-oriented design principles.					X	X		
Offer density-bonus incentives for projects that provide for infill, mixed use, and higher density residential development.					X	X		

**9.6.6. Safety Element**

**Traffic Safety**

Mitigation Measure or General/Area Plan Policy	Construction				Operational			
	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors	CAPs	GHGs	TACs	Odors
Facilitate traffic safety for motorists and pedestrians through proper street design and traffic monitoring.					X	X		
Require traffic control devices, crosswalks, and pedestrian-oriented lighting within design of streets, sidewalks, trails, and school routes.					X	X		





## A. CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT TOOLS

### High Level Haulage Input Worksheet High Level of Detail Fugitive Dust Quantification Method

**Instructions:** When using the *High Level of Detail* quantification method to calculate fugitive dust emissions from cut/fill activities, BAAQMD recommends using this worksheet to calculate the on- and off-site haulage inputs for URBEMIS. If a project would involve both on-site and off-site cut/fill operations, the user should create two separate High Level Haulage Input Worksheets (i.e., one worksheet calculation for on-site and one for off-site).

Project Name:

Grading Activity/Phase:

User inputs
Input to use in URBEMIS
Calculation (do not change)

#### Cut/Fill Operations

Description	Amount	Units	Notes
Total Cut/Fill Volume	1.800	cubic yards	Enter information
Months of Activity	2	months	Enter information
Days of Activity	44	days	
Daily Cut/Fill Volume	40.91	cubic yards/day	

#### Soil Density by Soil Type and Condition

Soil Type	Bulk Density (grams/cubic centimeter)	Density (pounds/cubic yard)	Density (tons/cubic yard)
Sandy	1.69	2,849	1.42
Loamy Coarse-Loamy	1.63	2,747	1.37
Loamy Fine-Loamy	1.60	2,697	1.35
Loamy Coarse-Silty	1.60	2,697	1.35
Loamy Fine-Silty	1.54	2,596	1.30
Clayey 25-25% clay	1.49	2,511	1.26
Clayey >45% clay	1.39	2,343	1.17

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2007. National Soil Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. [Online] Available at <<http://soils.usda.gov/technical/handbook/>>.

#### URBEMIS 2007 Ton-Mile Calculation

Description	Amount	Units	Notes
Soil Type	Loamy Coarse-Loamy		Use drop-down menu to select soil type. Assume Sandy unless project-specific soil type is known.
Soil Density	1.37	tons/cubic yard	Enter project specific soil density if known
Haul Distance (Round Trip On-Site)	0.04	miles	Enter distance
Ton-Mile per Day	2.25	ton-miles/day	

**Notes:**

On-site ton-mile assumes cut/fill volume is moved by scrapers.  
Off-site ton-mile assumes cut/fill volume is moved by haul trucks.



### URBEMIS Construction Modeling Data Needs/Requests

- 1) Construction Schedule
  - Land use type and size to be developed
  - Commencement and buildout date
  - Duration and start date for each construction phase (e.g., demolition, grading, building construction)
  - Identify any potential or planned overlap in phases

Note: If project will be built out in multiple phases, provide information above for each phase.

- 2) Demolition
  - Commencement date and duration of activities
  - Total volume to be demolished
  - Maximum daily volume to be demolished
  - Haul truck capacity and distance to disposal site (URBEMIS defaults provided)
  - Demolition equipment required (URBEMIS defaults provided)

Note: URBEMIS estimates demolition construction equipment based on the land use being developed.

- 3) Grading (Mass and Fine)
  - Commencement date and duration of activities
  - Maximum daily acres disturbed (URBEMIS defaults provided)
  - Volume of material to be cut and/or filled (cubic yards)
  - Volume of material to be exported and/or imported (cubic yards)
  - Construction equipment required

Note: URBEMIS estimates grading construction equipment based on maximum daily acres disturbed.

- 4) Fugitive Dust
  - A) Method 1 (Default)
    - Maximum daily acres disturbed (URBEMIS defaults provided)
  - B) Method 2 (Low Level of Detail)
    - Duration of cut/fill operations
    - Volume of material to be cut and/or filled (cubic yards)
    - Origin of soil material (i.e., on-site or off-site)
  - C) Method 3 (Medium Level of Detail)
    - Duration of cut/fill operations
    - Number of scrapers or haul trucks operating per day
    - Hours of operation for each scraper or haul truck (scraper hours and haul truck hours)
  - D) Method 4 (High Level of Detail)
    - Duration of cut/fill operations
    - Volume of material to be cut and/or filled (cubic yards)
    - Bulk density of material (i.e., tons per cubic yard)
    - Round trip distance required to move materials on-site (on-site miles only)



- 5) Asphalt Paving
  - Commencement date and duration of activities
  - Total acres to be paved
  - Construction equipment required

Note: URBEMIS estimates asphalt paving construction equipment based on total acres to be paved.

- 6) Architectural Coatings
  - Commencement date and duration of activities





## B. AIR QUALITY MODELING INSTRUCTIONS (URBEMIS)

This section provides detailed instructions for and examples of air quality modeling of operational and construction-related emissions pursuant to the methodological recommendations in this guide.

### OPERATIONAL-RELATED EMISSIONS

#### URBEMIS Input Parameters

URBEMIS provides default values for Bay Area specific modeling parameters. Users may use the default values or provide project specific information when possible for more accurate emission quantification. BAAQMD-recommended input parameters and data requirements along with general URBEMIS user information for each operational-related activity are described below. Refer to the [URBEMIS User's Guide](#) and the BAAQMD Greenhouse Gas Model User's Manual (referred to collectively as the "User's Guide" below) for more detailed information.

Table B-1 URBEMIS Input Parameters for Operation Emissions	
Operational Input Parameters	Guidance Principle
Air District	Bay Area Air District
Analysis Year	Earliest possible year when project would be operational
Land Use Type and Units	Based on project description
Trip Rate	From project traffic study, local trip rates, or ITE Trip Generation Manual
Project Location	Urban
Road Dust	Category should not be turned off but can be modified if project information is known
Pass-by Trips	See User's Guide for further instructions
Double Counting Correction	See User's Guide for further instructions
Percentage of Land Uses using Natural Gas	100 percent for both residential and nonresidential development
Persons per Residential Unit (Consumer Products)	Based on estimated number of residents
All Other URBEMIS Inputs	Use default values, unless project-specific data is available. See User's Guide for further instructions <sup>1</sup>
<sup>1</sup> The rationale for changing default values should be disclosed in the CEQA document	

#### *Land Use Type and Size*

Choose each individual land use type (e.g., single family housing, apartment high rise, regional shopping center, or office park) that is most applicable to the proposed development project in the *Enter Land Use Data* module and enter the size of the project (e.g., acres, thousand square feet [ksf], students, dwelling units [du], rooms, pumps, rooms, or employees). Ensure that the unit type for the project-specific data is consistent with the unit type selected in URBEMIS. By default, URBEMIS estimates the trip generation rates for each land use type based on equations included in the [ITE Trip Generation Manual](#). The trip rate represents the number of daily trips generated by a particular land use type by size. Override the default trip rate if project-specific data is available from the transportation analysis.



URBEMIS estimates the trip rate differently for residential land use types than for non-residential land use types. For residential land use types, URBEMIS adjusts the default trip rate based on residential density (i.e., dwelling units/residential acre). Overriding the default value for the number of acres for a residential land use type would automatically result in a change in the trip rate value. If both the number of acres and the trip rates for a residential development are known, enter the unit amount for the land use first, then adjust the acreage second, and then adjust the trip rate last. Select the *Submit* button after completing the *Enter Land Use Data* module.

For nonresidential land use types, URBEMIS uses a default trip rate value that is directly based on the unit amount entered into the *Enter Land Use Data* module. URBEMIS also assumes a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 0.5 for all nonresidential uses. The FAR is the ratio of the total floor area of a building to the size of the parcel on which it is located. Override the value in the acres data field based on the FAR for the proposed nonresidential land uses. URBEMIS does not adjust the default trip rate if the acre value is adjusted.

The *Enter Land Use Data* module includes a default worker commute trip percentage for all nonresidential land use types, which is used to estimate percentages of other commercial trip types in the *Enter Operational Data* module. The *Enter Land Use Data* module also contains default percentages of primary, diverted, and pass-by trips for all land use types, residential and non-residential. Primary trips are trips made for the specific purpose of visiting the generator and URBEMIS assumes that primary trips travel a full trip length; pass-by trips are trips made as intermediate stops on the way from an origin to another trip destination; and diverted-linked trips are trips attracted from the traffic volume on roadways in the vicinity of the generator but which require a diversion from that roadway to another roadway to gain access to the site. Pass-by and diverted-linked trips are assigned a shorter trip distance than primary trips. URBEMIS assumes that pass-by trips result in virtually no extra travel, with an assumed trip length of 0.1 mile. Diverted-linked trip lengths are assumed to equal 25 percent of the primary trip length. URBEMIS allows users to edit these data fields. URBEMIS incorporates this information for estimation of mobile-source emissions only if the check box for the Pass-by Trips category in the *Enter Operational Data* module is selected. When not selected, URBEMIS assumes all trips are primary trips. BAAQMD recommends reviewing the User's Guide for more information about when to use this feature. Additional discussion about pass-by trips is provided under the *Enter Operational Data* module guidance below.

When estimating emissions for a type of land use that is not listed in URBEMIS, select a similar land use type or add a new land use type on the Blank tab of the *Enter Land Use Data* module. When selecting a similar nonresidential land use type as a proxy, consider the worker commute trip percentage and the primary, diverted, and pass-by trip values. The name of the land use type is unimportant and can be overridden with new text if desired. BAAQMD recommends using one of the types of residential land uses listed in URBEMIS as a proxy when analyzing any type of unique residential project.

For unique nonresidential types of land uses, BAAQMD recommends either using another nonresidential land use type as a proxy or using a Blank land use type. If a new land use type is analyzed using a row on the Blank tab of the *Enter Land Use Data* module, enter a trip rate as URBEMIS does not provide default trip rate on the Blank tab. BAAQMD recommends using a trip rate from the [ITE Trip Generation Manual](#), if an appropriate trip rate is available. If an applicable trip generation rate is not available, the lead agency should make a good faith effort to derive a trip generation rate for the proposed project.

### **Operational Data**

The *Enter Operational Data* module allows users to estimate vehicle exhaust emissions from trips (and associated VMT) generated by a project. The module consists of seven operational



parameter categories including *Year & Vehicle Fleet*, *Trip Characteristics*, *Temperature Data*, *Variable Starts*, *Road Dust*, *Pass-by Trips*, and *Double-Counting Correction*. The first five operational categories are all needed to calculate vehicle exhaust emissions and cannot be turned off. Three of the seven operational categories can be turned off: *Road Dust*, *Pass-by Trips*, and *Double-Counting Correction*.

Guidance regarding each of the operational categories is provided below. In general, most of the default values for these seven source categories do not need to be changed, except where otherwise noted.

#### *Year & Vehicle Fleet*

The *Year & Vehicle Fleet* category allows users to specify the operational year for the project. Use the earliest possible year when the project would be operational to estimate worst-case operational emissions. Be aware that changing the project start year also changes the vehicle fleet mix. The default fleet mix values (i.e., *Fleet %*, *Vehicle Type*, *Non-Catalyst*, *Catalyst*, *Diesel*) are based on values from EMFAC using the year and the location of the project that is specified when users creates a new project in URBEMIS. The fleet mix should be modified only if it is known that the fleet mix for a project would be different from the average vehicle fleet mix in the project area. In that situation, select *Keep Current Fleet Mix When Changing Years*. Changes to the fleet mix data should be based on information provided by the transportation analysis and/or assumptions that are disclosed in the CEQA document. For instance, the fleet mix of motor vehicle trips generated by a school project would likely consist of a higher percentage of school buses and a lower percentage of motor homes and motorcycles than the URBEMIS average.

#### *Trip Characteristics*

The *Trip Characteristics* category includes trip data such as average speed, trip percentages, urban and rural trip lengths for different trip types. The trip percentages for home-based trips can be modified; however, it is not possible to modify the same for commercial-based trips, which URBEMIS calculates using the worker commute trip percentage entered in the *Enter Land Use Data* module. URBEMIS uses either the urban or rural trip length values depending on whether *Urban Project* or *Rural Project* is selected on the same screen. In general, the *Urban Project* option should be selected for most land use development projects under BAAQMD's jurisdiction. The trip length values can be changed if supported by information produced in a transportation analysis and/or reasonable assumptions about the project. For instance, the trip length for a proposed school might be adjusted according to the spatial distribution of the households that would be served by that school, particularly if the majority of trip generation would consist of parents driving their children to the school.

In addition to trip rate adjustments based on residential density, URBEMIS allows for modifications to vehicle trips based on other project characteristics. If specific project information is available for any land use type it should be reflected in the URBEMIS inputs. The table "URBEMIS Measures – Operational (Mobile-source) Measures" in Section 4.2 lists available measures to alter the trip rate to better reflect specific conditions. For example, if a project includes access to transit, URBEMIS trip rates can be adjusted between 0% and 15%. A 15% reduction in vehicle trips due to transit access would only be appropriate for a project that offers access to exceptional transit service. See the User's Guide for further instructions on all adjustments. Lead agencies must discuss and justify their reductions with substantial evidence.

#### *Temperature Data*

The *Temperature Data* category contains default ambient winter and summer temperature values which are used to estimate winter and summer emissions, respectively. The default temperature values in these data fields are specific to SFBAAB and should only be modified in consultation with BAAQMD.



### *Variable Starts*

The *Variable Starts* parameter category shows the percentage of vehicles in several time classes (minutes since the vehicle engine was turned off) for the six trip types defined in the *Trip Characteristics* parameter category. This information is derived from the applicable EMFAC file and should only be modified in consultation BAAQMD.

### *Road Dust*

The *Road Dust* parameter category allows users to specify the distribution of vehicle travel between paved and unpaved roads. This category is used to calculate entrained road dust emissions due to vehicle travel on paved and unpaved surfaces. Do not turn this category off, and users can adjust the percentage of travel on paved and unpaved roads if detailed project information is known.

### *Pass-by Trips*

The *Pass-by Trips* parameter category can only be turned on or off. When selected, this category divides all the project-generated trips into primary, pass-by, and diverted-linked trips (entered as percentages in *Enter Land Use Data* module). When this category is not selected, URBEMIS assumes 100 percent of the project-generated trips are primary trips. Pass-by trips are trips made as intermediate stops on the way from an origin to a primary trip destination. URBEMIS accounts for these trips by setting the trip length to 0.1 miles for each pass-by trip. These trips are most important for retail and commercial land uses, such as gas stations and fast food restaurants. This option is not applicable to all land use types. For example, most of the trips to and from a *Warehouse* are typically expected to be primary trips and the *Pass-by Trips* option should not be used. This category check box should not be selected unless the percentage of pass-by trips is supported by a transportation analysis or a set of reasonable assumptions discussed in the CEQA document. If the trip length values in the *Trip Characteristics* category or the trip rate values in the *Enter Land Use Data* module are overwritten using information provided by a transportation analysis, be aware of whether the traffic data incorporated the occurrence of pass-by trips. If the *Pass-By Trips* checkbox is selected then the lead agency should discuss its reasoning for assuming that some of the project-generated vehicle trips would be considered pass-by trips.

### *Double-Counting Correction*

The *Double-Counting Correction* parameter category is designed to account for internal trips between residential and nonresidential land uses. The *Double-Counting Correction* is applicable to mixed-use projects that include both residential and nonresidential land use types in the *Enter Land Use Data* module. For example, a residential trip and a retail trip generated by a mixed-use project may be the same trip. Users have the option of entering the number of internal trips between residential and nonresidential land uses in the *Enter the gross internal trip* as desired. The value entered represents the number of internal trips that would not be included in the emissions estimate. This category should not be used unless the transportation analysis or local transportation studies contain data to support the correction factor. In some cases, the transportation analysis may report project-specific trip generation that is already corrected for internal trips. Consult with a traffic engineer to determine the appropriate method to account for internal trips. The *Double-Counting Correction* checkbox should not be selected if detailed project information is unknown.

### *Area Source*

The *Enter Area Source Data* module allows users to adjust the five area-source emission categories including, natural gas fuel combustion, hearth fuel combustion, landscape fuel combustion, consumer products, and architectural coatings. The natural gas, hearth, and landscape maintenance categories relate to on-site fuel combustion and the consumer products and architectural coatings categories address on-site evaporative emissions.



Guidance regarding each of the area-source categories is provided below. In general, most of the default values for these five source categories do not need to be changed except where otherwise noted in this guide.

#### *Natural Gas Fuel Combustion*

Parameters in the *Natural Gas Fuel Combustion* category are used to estimate the natural gas combustion emissions from space and water heating. On the *Natural Gas* tab the default percentage for land uses using natural gas should be changed to 100 percent for both residential and nonresidential land use types, as is representative of most development projects in the SFBAAB, unless project-specific data is available. Similarly, do not override the default natural gas usage values unless project-specific data is available.

#### *Hearth Fuel Combustion*

The *Hearth Fuel Combustion* category consists of separate tabs for *Hearth Percentages*, *Wood Stoves*, *Wood Fireplaces*, *Natural Gas Fireplaces*, and *Natural Gas Emission Factors*. Each of the tabs is discussed separately below.

- *Hearth Percentages*

The parameters on the *Hearth Percentages* tab are applicable only to projects that include residential units. The default percentages should be used for the wood stoves, wood fireplaces, and wood stoves unless project-specific information is available. URBEMIS does not estimate emissions from any hearth types for nonresidential land use types.

- *Wood Stoves*

On the *Wood Stoves* tab, the default percent values for the types of wood stoves (i.e., *Noncatalytic*, *Catalytic*, *Conventional*, and *Pellet*) should be changed in accordance with [District Regulation 6, Rule 3](#), which allows only EPA-certified wood burning fireplaces and pellet stoves in new construction projects. The values for *Wood Burned*, *Wood Stove Usage*, and *Pounds in a Cord of Wood* should not be changed unless project-specific information is available.

- *Wood Fireplaces*

The *Wood Fireplaces* tab is similar to the *Wood Stoves* tab. The emission factors on this tab cannot be modified. The values for *Wood Burned*, *Wood Stove Usage*, and *Pounds in a Cord of Wood* should not be changed unless project-specific information is available. [District Regulation 6, Rule 3](#) allows only EPA-certified wood burning fireplaces in new construction projects.

- *Natural Gas Fireplaces*

The values in the data fields on the *Natural Gas Fireplaces* tab should only be modified in the case that project-specific information is available that supports overriding default values.

- *Natural Gas Emission Factors*

The emission factors contained in the *Natural Gas Emission Factors* tab cannot be modified. These values are used to estimate emissions from natural gas combustion in fireplaces/stoves and, according to the [URBEMIS User's Guide](#), are based on [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Air Pollutant \(AP-42\) emission factors](#).

#### *Landscape Fuel Combustion*

The *Landscape Fuel Combustion* source category calculates on-site emissions from landscaping equipment such as lawn mowers, leaf blowers, chain saws, and hedge trimmers that are powered by internal combustion engines. On this tab, only adjust the value for the year being analyzed. The year entered into this field should be the earliest year when the project could become fully



operational. Landscaping emissions are estimated for the summer period only. URBEMIS uses emission rates from ARB's [OFFROAD model](#) to estimate of landscape maintenance equipment emissions.

#### *Consumer Products*

The *Consumer Products* source category is only relevant to projects that include residential land use types. The *Pounds of ROG (per person)* value should not be adjusted in this category. The persons per residential unit data field should be adjusted based on the estimated number of residents that would be supported by the proposed project, if available. The value should be consistent with the number of residents divided by the number of residential units.

#### *Architectural Coating*

Do not make changes to the values in the *Architectural Coating* source category without consulting BAAQMD.

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## EXAMPLE PROJECT OPERATIONAL-RELATED EMISSIONS CALCULATION

### Description

The Example Project would develop a multi-story, mixed-use building that includes 40 units of residential condominium apartments, 50,000 square feet (or “50 thousand square feet” [ksf]) of offices and 35 ksf of retail land uses on an undeveloped 4.0-acre site. All of the residential condominium apartments would have natural gas lines for space heating but half of the units would be referred to as “suites” and include natural gas fireplaces. The regular apartments would not have natural gas fireplaces. Project construction would last two years beginning in 2010 and the project would be fully operational by 2013.

### Emissions Quantification

When entering the proposed land uses into the Land Use Module, URBEMIS estimates the number of Acres for each Land Use Type assuming that each land use type would be constructed on separate lots. Using default values URBEMIS would assume this Example Project is 4.56 total acres (i.e., 0.65 acres for Apartment High Rise, 2.30 acres for General Office Building, and 1.61 acres for Strip Mall). For mixed-use and/or multi-level developments, the user should adjust the Acres for each of the proposed land uses such that the combined total acreage of all land use types is equal to the actual combined total size of the proposed project site (i.e., 4.0 acres, in this example) prior to running the model.

URBEMIS estimates the Trip Rate differently for residential land use types than for non-residential land use types. For residential land use types, URBEMIS adjusts the default Trip Rate based on residential density (i.e., dwelling units/residential acre). Therefore, overriding the default value for the number of Acres assumed by URBEMIS for a residential land use type would automatically result in a change to the value assumed in the Trip Rate data field. If both the number of Acres and the Trip Rate for a residential development are known, the user should adjust the Acres field first, then adjust the Trip Rate field, and then click the Submit button. For nonresidential Land Use Types, URBEMIS uses a default value for in the Trip Rate data field that is directly based on the Unit Amt entered into the Land Use Module. The trip rates used by URBEMIS are based on standard rates from the ITE Trip Generation Manual. URBEMIS also assumes a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 0.5 for all nonresidential land use types. The FAR is the ratio of the total floor area of a building to the size of the parcel on which it is located. The user should override the value in the Acres data field based on the actual FAR for the development, as appropriate.



In the Area Source Module, Hearth Fuel Combustion category, the user should change the data fields for Wood Stoves, Wood Fireplaces, Natural Gas Fireplaces, and None (% w/o any hearth option) on the Hearth Percentages tab to 0, 0, 50, and 50, respectively to match the project description. In the Landscape Fuel Combustion source category the Year being Analyzed data field should be changed to 2013.

In the Operational Module the year data field in the Year & Vehicle Fleet category page should also be changed to 2013.

Lastly, the estimated daily and annual emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors should be compared to the District's thresholds of significance (Table 2-2). If the daily or annual emissions would exceed the lead agency's determined thresholds of significance, operational emissions would be considered significant and all feasible mitigation measures should be implemented to reduce these emissions.

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## CONSTRUCTION-RELATED EMISSIONS

### Land Use Development Projects

URBEMIS includes a module (*Enter Construction Data*) that quantifies emissions from the following construction-related activity phases: demolition, mass and fine grading ("grading"), trenching, asphalt paving, building construction, and the application of architectural coatings.

### URBEMIS Input Parameters

BAAQMD recommends input parameters and data requirements along with general URBEMIS user information for each construction-related activity phase below. Refer to the URBEMIS User's Manual for more detailed information. Appendix A contains a *Construction Data Needs Form* template that can be used to assist with requesting and gathering project-specific information.

#### Land Use Type and Size

Choose each individual land use type (e.g., single family housing, apartment high rise, regional shopping center, or office park) that is most applicable to the proposed development project in the *Enter Land Use Data* module and enter the size of the project (e.g., acres, thousand square feet [ksf], students, dwelling units [du], rooms, pumps, rooms, or employees). For several of the land use types, various size units are available (e.g., ksf and acres); ensure that the unit type for the project-specific data is consistent with the unit type selected in URBEMIS.

#### Schedule

The project schedule typically provides the number of months or days required for the completion of each construction-related activity phase (e.g., grading, building construction, asphalt paving), as well as the total duration of project construction. Where project-specific information is available, modify URBEMIS default assumptions in *Click to Add, Delete, or Modify Phases* under the *Enter Construction Data* module. In this module, add or delete construction activities, add multiple similar construction activities (e.g., three grading phases), as well as overlap any construction activities as necessary. The URBEMIS default assumption for the number of work days per week is five, which inherently assumes that construction-related activities would only occur during weekdays, not on weekends. This can be altered if project-specific data is available in *Click to Add, Delete, or Modify Phases* under the construction phase setting *Work Days/Week*. For projects with specific phasing information (i.e., duration of each construction phase), but no definite construction commencement date, the earliest feasible start date should be used to be conservative. In addition, when project-specific information is not known, assume some overlap of construction phases (e.g., overlap of grading and asphalt paving activities or asphalt paving and building construction activities) to also be conservative. Please note that URBEMIS quantifies



annual emissions on a calendar year basis (i.e., January to December) rather than the year-long period (running yearly average from the start date of construction) with the maximum amount of emissions.

### **Demolition**

URBEMIS quantifies exhaust and fugitive PM dust emissions from demolition activities in the *Demolition Phase* within the *Enter Construction Data* module. Information to quantify emissions from this activity phase includes:

1. Duration of demolition (work days/week, phase start and end dates);
2. Total volume of building to be demolished (width, length, and height);
3. Maximum daily volume of building to be demolished (width, length, and height);
4. Haul truck capacity (cubic yards [yd<sup>3</sup>]);
5. Haul truck trip length to disposal site (round trip miles); and
6. Off-road equipment requirements (number and type of equipment).

URBEMIS contains default assumptions for haul truck capacity (yd<sup>3</sup> per truck) and round trip distance (miles), if project-specific information is not available. URBEMIS also contains default assumptions for off-road equipment requirements. URBEMIS bases these on the size(s) of the proposed land use type(s) in the *Enter Land Use Data* module to estimate the off-road equipment requirements. In other words, URBEMIS assumes the size of the land use to be demolished is equal to the land use that would be developed. If the size(s) and/or type(s) of the land use(s) to be demolished are different from the land use(s) to be developed, create a separate URBEMIS run to quantify demolition emissions. Input the size and type of land use(s) for the different demolition building space versus the proposed building space in the *Enter Land Use Data* module for the separate URBEMIS run and only include the *Demolition* phase within the *Enter Construction Data* module.

### **Site Grading (Mass and Fine)**

URBEMIS quantifies exhaust and fugitive PM dust emissions from grading activities in the *Site Grading* phase within the *Enter Construction Data* module. Information to quantify emissions from this activity phase includes, where applicable:

1. Duration of grading (work days/week, phase start and end dates);
2. Total acreage to be graded (acres);
3. Maximum daily acreage disturbed (acres per day);
4. Type and amount of cut/fill activities (yd<sup>3</sup> per day on- or off-site);
5. Description of soil hauling (amount of soil import/export [yd<sup>3</sup>], haul truck capacity [yd<sup>3</sup> per truck], round trips per day, round trip distance [miles]); and
6. Off-road grading equipment requirements (number and type of equipment).

URBEMIS default assumptions for the total acreage to be graded and the maximum daily acreage disturbed are shown in the *Daily Acreage* tab within the *Site Grading* phase. Under the default settings, URBEMIS assumes that the maximum daily acreage disturbed is equivalent to 25 percent of the total acreage to be graded. Override this default assumption if more specific project information is available. The *Site Grading* phase consists of separate tabs for *Daily Acreage*, as mentioned above, *Fugitive Dust*, *Soil Hauling*, and *Site Grading Equipment*. Due to the differences in methodology and level of information required, each is discussed separately below.



### Fugitive Dust

URBEMIS quantifies fugitive PM dust emissions in the *Site Grading* phase under the *Fugitive Dust* tab. URBEMIS provides four different levels of detail from which to select (i.e., default, low, medium, and high), described below.

*Default:* This method involves the use of the *Default Emission Rate* quantification methodology in the *Fugitive Dust* tab for which fugitive PM dust emissions are based on an emission rate (pound per disturbed acre per day [lb/acre-day]). This method should only be used when no project-specific information is known, or when no cut/fill activities would occur. Use the selection of the worst-case emission rate (i.e., 38.2 lb/acre-day) for extensive site preparation activities (e.g., cut/fill) where the exact type and amount (e.g., yd<sup>3</sup> per day on- or off-site) are not known, and selection of the average emission rate (i.e., 10 lb/acre-day) otherwise. The average emission rate would be used for projects that involve typical site grading activities, but no cut/fill or earthmoving activities.

*Low:* The *Low Level of Detail* quantification method should be used when cut/fill activities would occur and the amount of on-site and off-site cut/fill is known. Input the type and amount of cut/fill activities (yd<sup>3</sup> per day on- or off-site). On-site cut/fill activities involve soil movement within the boundaries of the project site via scrapers or graders, while off-site cut/fill activities involve soil movement outside of the boundaries of the project site via haul trucks. Projects that require off-site cut/fill should also enter the appropriate amount of soil import/export in the *Soil Hauling* tab, as discussed in more detail below.

*Medium:* The *Medium Level of Detail* quantification method should be used when cut/fill activities would occur and the required number of activity hours per day for on-site scrapers and off-site haul trucks is known. Input the number of hours per day for on-site scraper and off-site haul trucks conducting cut/fill activities. Input the total number of scraper-hours and/or haul truck-hours that are anticipated to occur per day. For example, if two scrapers would operate for eight hours per day each and three haul trucks would operate for four hours per day each, enter 16 for the *Onsite Scraper* parameter (i.e., 2 scrapers × 8 hours) and 12 for the *Offsite Haul* parameter (i.e., 3 haul trucks × 4 hours). Similar to the *Low Level of Detail* quantification method, on-site cut/fill activities involve soil movement within the boundaries of the project site via scrapers or graders, while off-site cut/fill activities involve soil movement outside of the boundaries of the project site via haul trucks. Projects that require off-site cut/fill should also enter the appropriate amount of soil import/export in the *Soil Hauling* tab, as discussed in more detail below.

*High:* The *High Level of Detail* quantification method should be used when cut/fill activities would occur and details about soil haulage is known. Input data on the amount of on- and off-site haulage (ton-miles per day) based on the total volume of cut/fill (yd<sup>3</sup>), duration of the cut/fill activities (work days), density of soil being moved (tons per yd<sup>3</sup>), and the scraper or haul truck round-trip distance (miles). A *High Level Haulage Input* worksheet that can be used to assist with determining the amount of on- and off-site haulage (ton-miles per day) required for this method is contained in Appendix A.

### Soil Hauling

URBEMIS quantifies entrained PM road dust and exhaust emissions from soil hauling in the *Soil Hauling* tab within the *Site Grading* phase. Information requirements include the amount of soil import/export (yd<sup>3</sup>), round trips per day, round trip distance (miles), and haul truck capacity (yd<sup>3</sup> per truck). For round trip distance and haul truck capacity, URBEMIS provides default assumptions of 20 yd<sup>3</sup> per truck and 20 miles, respectively. Override the default assumptions if the project specific values are known.



### Grading Equipment

URBEMIS quantifies exhaust emissions from on-site heavy-duty equipment in the *Site Grading Equipment* tab within the *Site Grading* phase. Information requirements include the type of equipment and quantity or amount, along with horsepower, load factor, and hours of operation per work day. URBEMIS provides default assumptions for all of these, primarily based on the amount of maximum daily acreage disturbed shown in the *Daily Acreage* tab. If project-specific grading equipment is known, click on the *All Checks Off* button and input the number for each type of equipment to be used for the project. Note that although the *All Checks Off* button will allow users to override the URBEMIS default equipment assumptions in the *Amount Model Uses* column, make sure to delete the previous URBEMIS default equipment selections prior to entering the project-specific equipment information.

### **Asphalt Paving**

URBEMIS quantifies off-gas and exhaust emissions from asphalt paving activities in the *Paving* tab within the *Enter Construction Data* module. Information to quantify emissions from this activity phase includes the duration of asphalt paving (work days/week, phase start and end dates), total acreage to be paved, and off-road equipment requirements. URBEMIS includes default assumptions for the amount of asphalt to be paved based on the size of the proposed land use type(s) in the *Enter Land Use Data* module. Account for the size of project features (e.g., parking structure, roadways, and large hardtop fields) that would require asphalt paving in excess of default assumptions (i.e., standard site access and parking spaces) within the *Total Acreage to be Paved with Asphalt* parameter.

### **Architectural Coating**

URBEMIS quantifies off-gas emissions from the application of architectural coatings in the *Arch Coating* tab within the *Enter Construction Data* module. Information to quantify emissions from this phase include the duration of activities (i.e., work days/week, phase start and end dates). URBEMIS includes default parameters for the volatile organic compound content per liter of coating based on BAAQMD's Regulation 8, Rule 3: Architectural Coating.

### **Construction Mitigation Measures**

The methodology for quantifying criteria air pollutant and precursor emission reductions from fugitive PM dust and exhaust emissions are discussed below.

### **Fugitive Particulate Matter Dust Emissions**

For quantification of fugitive PM dust-related *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* in URBEMIS, select the *Mitigation* option in the *Enter Construction Data* module for the *Site Grading* phase. For *Site Grading Soil Disturbance Mitigation*, select (turn on) the soil stabilizing measure titled *Water exposed surfaces* along with the two times daily option without altering the default percent reduction. For *Unpaved Roads Mitigation*, select the measure titled *Reduce speed on unpaved roads to less than 15 mph* without altering the default percent reduction. URBEMIS assumes that fugitive PM dust emissions from soil disturbance activities and travel on unpaved roads account for approximately 79 percent and 21 percent of total the fugitive PM dust emissions, respectively. URBEMIS will apply an approximate 53 percent reduction to total fugitive PM dust emissions for implementing the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* 1 through 5 in Table 8-1.

To account for the implementation of the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures* 1 through 8, alter the default percent reduction to 63 percent, which would result in a total reduction of 75 percent in fugitive PM dust emissions. For *Site Grading Soil Disturbance Mitigation* select (turn on) the soil stabilizing measure titled *Equipment loading/unloading*.



In RoadMod, select water trucks to account for the implemented of the Basic Construction Mitigation Measures. Roadmod assumes an inherent 50 percent reduction in fugitive PM dust emissions when water trucks are selected.

Apply an additional 50 percent reduction to the fugitive PM dust emissions contained in the *Emission Estimates* tab of RoadMod to account for the implementation of the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures* 1 through 8. The resulting total percent reduction from fugitive PM dust emissions would be 75 percent (i.e.,  $1 - (0.5 \times 0.5)$ ). The resultant amount of fugitive PM dust emissions should be added to the average daily mitigated exhaust PM emissions (methodology described below) to calculate the total amount of mitigated PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions.

### **Exhaust Emissions**

A 5 percent reduction could be applied for NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> to account for implementing measures 6 and 7 in the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures*. For quantification in URBEMIS, select the *Mitigation* option in the *Enter Construction Data* module for the *Site Grading*, *Building Construction*, and *Asphalt Paving* phases, as applicable to the proposed project. Then for the *Off-Road Equipment Mitigation*, select (turn on) the measure titled *Use aqueous diesel fuel* and alter the default percent reduction for each.

To estimate exhaust emission reductions related to measure 10 in the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures*, turn on the measure titled *Use aqueous diesel fuel* and alter the default percent reduction values to 20 percent for NO<sub>x</sub> and 45 percent for PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. For the *Off-Road Equipment Mitigation* select (turn on) the measure titled *Diesel particulate filter* and alter the default percent reductions as listed in measure 10.

RoadMod does not calculate emission reductions associated with the implementation of the exhaust-related *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures*. To quantify the exhaust-related emission reductions associated with the implementation of the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures*, rely on the information and data contained in the *Data Entry* and *Emission Estimates* tabs in RoadMod. Reductions in exhaust emissions should be quantified separately for each phase (i.e., Grubbing/Land Clearing, Grading/Excavation, Drainage/Utilities/ Sub-Grade, and Paving). First isolate the exhaust emissions from off-road (e.g., heavy-duty) equipment for each phase. Table B-1 below provides a cell reference for the *Data Entry* tab of RoadMod to assist with the identification and isolation of such emissions.

Once isolated, a 5 percent reduction could be applied to account for implementing measures 6 and 7 in the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* for NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

Emission reductions should be estimated by multiplying the total emissions for each compound by the anticipated emission reduction applicable for that compound to estimate the mitigated amount of emissions reductions.

Apply a 20 percent reduction for NO<sub>x</sub> and a 45 percent reduction for PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> to account for implementation of Measure 9 in the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measure*. To quantify the other exhaust-related emission reductions associated with the implementation of the *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures*, follow the same methodology described above for applying the reductions associated with the implementation of the *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures*.

### **Off-Gas Emissions**

For quantification of off-gas-related *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures* (measure 11) first select the *Mitigation* option in the *Enter Construction Data* module for the *Architectural*



*Coating* phase. Then select (turn on) the measures applicable to the proposed project and alter the default percent reduction as appropriate.

### Linear Projects

For proposed projects that are linear in nature (e.g., road or levee construction, pipeline installation, transmission lines), use the most current version of Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's (SMAQMD) Road Construction Emissions Model (*RoadMod*) to quantify construction-related criteria air pollutants and precursors. Similar to URBEMIS, *RoadMod* quantifies fugitive PM dust, exhaust, and off-gas emissions from the following construction-related activity phases: grubbing/land clearing, grading/excavation, drainage/utilities/sub-grade, and paving. Use *RoadMod* in accordance with the user instructions and default assumptions unless project-specific information is available. The default assumptions are applicable to projects located within the SFBAAB. Also, URBEMIS inherently accounts for the on-site construction of roadways and the installation of project infrastructure. If the proposed project involves off-site improvements that are linear in nature (e.g., roadway widening), use *RoadMod* in addition to URBEMIS to determine total emissions.

Linear Construction Phase	NO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Grubbing/Land Clearing	G155	H155	I155
Grading/Excavation	G195	H195	I195
Drainage/Utilities/Sub-Grade	G235	H235	I235
Paving	G275	H275	I275

Notes: NO<sub>x</sub> = oxides of nitrogen; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less; PM<sub>10</sub> = respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 10 micrometers or less.  
 Cell references refer to the *Data Entry* tab from the SMAQMD Road Construction Emissions Model.  
 Source: SMAQMD 2009.

#### NO<sub>x</sub> Emission Reduction

Emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> (lb/day) × (1 – [NO<sub>x</sub> percent reduction])

#### PM<sub>10</sub> Emission Reduction

Emissions of PM<sub>10</sub> (lb/day) × (1 – [PM<sub>10</sub> percent reduction])

#### PM<sub>2.5</sub> Emission Reduction

Emissions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> (lb/day) × (1 – [PM<sub>2.5</sub> percent reduction])

Users should use the *Emission Estimates* tab to calculate the total mitigated amount of emissions for each phase of construction. The total NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> exhaust emissions for each phase are contained in cells E6 to E9, H6 to H9, and K6 to K9, respectively. To calculate the total amount of mitigated emissions, first subtract the unmitigated off-road equipment exhaust emissions from the total exhaust emissions to calculate total emissions without inclusion of off-road equipment exhaust emissions. Then, add the mitigated off-road exhaust emissions (calculated with the method described above) to the remaining emissions to calculate the total emissions with mitigated off-road construction equipment exhaust emissions. For PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>,



add the mitigated exhaust emissions with the mitigated fugitive PM dust emissions (calculated by RoadMod) to calculate the total amount of mitigated PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions.

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## EXAMPLE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION-RELATED EMISSIONS CALCULATION

### Description

This Example Project proposes development of 100 single-family residential units over a 2-year period. The project site would be approximately 33 acres (URBEMIS default assumption) and require an undetermined volume of fill materials to be imported to the site. In addition, the project would involve construction of a new access road to serve the development.

### Screening Analysis

A detailed quantitative analysis of construction-generated NO<sub>x</sub> emissions should be performed using URBEMIS to estimate NO<sub>x</sub> generated by construction of the residential units and using the RoadMod to estimate NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from construction of the new access road.

### Emissions Quantification

The size and type of land use proposed (i.e., single family housing) should be entered into the Land Use Module in URBEMIS. In this case, the project's total acres are equal to the default URBEMIS assumption and no override is necessary in the Acres data field. Modeling the construction emissions associated with single-family residential units in URBEMIS requires detailed information about the construction schedule (e.g., commencement date, types of construction activities required, and length of construction activities).

The fugitive PM dust emissions associated with fill activities should be estimated using the Fugitive Dust tab of the Mass Site Grading phase. For use of the Low Level of Detail quantification method, the volume of fill activities should be divided by the number of days that fill activities would occur. For example, if the project would require up to 20,000 yd<sup>3</sup> of fill materials to be imported over a minimum of 40 work days, the user should enter 500 (i.e., 20,000 yd<sup>3</sup> ÷ 40 days) into the Amount of Offsite Cut/Fill (cubic yards/day) data field. In addition, users should also input the total volume of fill materials to be imported into the Total Amount of Soil to Import (cubic yards) data field in the Soil Hauling tab. Off-road construction equipment for grading activities is estimated by URBEMIS based on the Maximum Daily Acreage Disturbed data field.

URBEMIS estimates the types and quantities of construction equipment in the Building Construction phase to develop the proposed project. For the Asphalt Paving phase, URBEMIS assumes the project requires asphalt paving for 25% of the total site. If more specific information can be provided, then user should turn off the Reset acreage with land use changes button in the Off Gas Emissions tab and override the Total Acreage to be Paved with Asphalt data field.

Due to the linear nature of the new access road to the project, daily mass emissions associated with its construction should be quantified using RoadMod. Users should obtain basic project information for the new access road and enter the information into the Data Entry tab of RoadMod. If project-specific information is not available RoadMod estimates the construction schedule for the road and the equipment used in each construction phase.

For analysis of the project's total average daily emissions, users should add emissions of each respective pollutant associated with development of the single-family residential units with the respective emissions associated with construction of the access road where construction activities are anticipated to overlap in the construction schedule. The average daily emissions of each pollutant that would occur throughout the entire construction period should be identified and compared with the lead agency's threshold of significance. If the emissions would exceed the



project's threshold of significance, construction emissions would be considered significant and all feasible mitigation measures to reduce emissions should be implemented.

BAAQMD recommends implementation of *Basic Construction Mitigation Measures* and *Additional Construction Mitigation Measures* to reduce fugitive dust emissions for significant projects.



## C. SAMPLE AIR QUALITY SETTING

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional air quality agency for the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB), which comprises all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties, the southern portion of Sonoma, and the southwestern portion of Solano County. Air quality in this area is determined by such natural factors as topography, meteorology, and climate, in addition to the presence of existing air pollution sources and ambient conditions. These factors along with applicable regulations are discussed below.

### C.1.1. Climate, Topography, Air Pollution Potential

The SFBAAB is characterized by complex terrain, consisting of coastal mountain ranges, inland valleys, and bays, which distort normal wind flow patterns. The Coast Range splits resulting in a western coast gap, Golden Gate, and an eastern coast gap, Carquinez Strait, which allow air to flow in and out of the SFBAAB and the Central Valley.

The climate is dominated by the strength and location of a semi-permanent, subtropical high-pressure cell. During the summer, the Pacific high pressure cell is centered over the northeastern Pacific Ocean resulting in stable meteorological conditions and a steady northwesterly wind flow. Upwelling of cold ocean water from below to the surface because of the northwesterly flow produces a band of cold water off the California coast. The cool and moisture-laden air approaching the coast from the Pacific Ocean is further cooled by the presence of the cold water band resulting in condensation and the presence of fog and stratus clouds along the Northern California coast.

In the winter, the Pacific high-pressure cell weakens and shifts southward resulting in wind flow offshore, the absence of upwelling, and the occurrence of storms. Weak inversions coupled with moderate winds result in a low air pollution potential.

#### High Pressure Cell

During the summer, the large-scale meteorological condition that dominates the West Coast is a semi-permanent high pressure cell centered over the northeastern Pacific Ocean. This high pressure cell keeps storms from affecting the California coast. Hence, the SFBAAB experiences little precipitation in the summer months. Winds tend to blow on shore out of the north/northwest.

The steady northwesterly flow induces upwelling of cold water from below. This upwelling produces a band of cold water off the California coast. When air approaches the California coast, already cool and moisture-laden from its long journey over the Pacific, it is further cooled as it crosses this bank of cold water. This cooling often produces condensation resulting in a high incidence of fog and stratus clouds along the Northern California coast in the summer.

Generally in the winter, the Pacific high weakens and shifts southward, winds tend to flow offshore, upwelling ceases and storms occur. During the winter rainy periods, inversions (layers of warmer air over colder air; see below) are weak or nonexistent, winds are usually moderate and air pollution potential is low. The Pacific high does periodically become dominant, bringing strong inversions, light winds and high pollution potential.

#### Topography

The topography of the SFBAAB is characterized by complex terrain, consisting of coastal mountain ranges, inland valleys and bays. This complex terrain, especially the higher elevations, distorts the normal wind flow patterns in the SFBAAB. The greatest distortion occur when low-level inversions are present and the air beneath the inversion flows independently of air above the inversion, a condition that is common in the summer time.



The only major break in California's Coast Range occurs in the SFBAAB. Here the Coast Range splits into western and eastern ranges. Between the two ranges lies San Francisco Bay. The gap in the western coast range is known as the Golden Gate, and the gap in the eastern coast range is the Carquinez Strait. These gaps allow air to pass into and out of the SFBAAB and the Central Valley.

### **Wind Patterns**

During the summer, winds flowing from the northwest are drawn inland through the Golden Gate and over the lower portions of the San Francisco Peninsula. Immediately south of Mount Tamalpais, the northwesterly winds accelerate considerably and come more directly from the west as they stream through the Golden Gate. This channeling of wind through the Golden Gate produces a jet that sweeps eastward and splits off to the northwest toward Richmond and to the southwest toward San Jose when it meets the East Bay hills.

Wind speeds may be strong locally in areas where air is channeled through a narrow opening, such as the Carquinez Strait, the Golden Gate or the San Bruno gap. For example, the average wind speed at San Francisco International Airport in July is about 17 knots (from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.), compared with only 7 knots at San Jose and less than 6 knots at the Farallon Islands.

The air flowing in from the coast to the Central Valley, called the sea breeze, begins developing at or near ground level along the coast in late morning or early afternoon. As the day progresses, the sea breeze layer deepens and increases in velocity while spreading inland. The depth of the sea breeze depends in large part upon the height and strength of the inversion. If the inversion is low and strong, and hence stable, the flow of the sea breeze will be inhibited and stagnant conditions are likely to result.

In the winter, the SFBAAB frequently experiences stormy conditions with moderate to strong winds, as well as periods of stagnation with very light winds. Winter stagnation episodes are characterized by nighttime drainage flows in coastal valleys. Drainage is a reversal of the usual daytime air-flow patterns; air moves from the Central Valley toward the coast and back down toward the Bay from the smaller valleys within the SFBAAB.

### **Temperature**

Summertime temperatures in the SFBAAB are determined in large part by the effect of differential heating between land and water surfaces. Because land tends to heat up and cool off more quickly than water, a large-scale gradient (differential) in temperature is often created between the coast and the Central Valley, and small-scale local gradients are often produced along the shorelines of the ocean and bays. The temperature gradient near the ocean is also exaggerated, especially in summer, because of the upwelling of cold ocean bottom water along the coast. On summer afternoons the temperatures at the coast can be 35°F cooler than temperatures 15 to 20 miles inland. At night this contrast usually decreases to less than 10°.

In the winter, the relationship of minimum and maximum temperatures is reversed. During the daytime the temperature contrast between the coast and inland areas is small, whereas at night the variation in temperature is large.

### **Precipitation**

The SFBAAB is characterized by moderately wet winters and dry summers. Winter rains account for about 75 percent of the average annual rainfall. The amount of annual precipitation can vary greatly from one part of the SFBAAB to another even within short distances. In general, total annual rainfall can reach 40 inches in the mountains, but it is often less than 16 inches in sheltered valleys.



During rainy periods, ventilation (rapid horizontal movement of air and injection of cleaner air) and vertical mixing are usually high, and thus pollution levels tend to be low. However, frequent dry periods do occur during the winter where mixing and ventilation are low and pollutant levels build up.

### **Air Pollution Potential**

The potential for high pollutant concentrations developing at a given location depends upon the quantity of pollutants emitted into the atmosphere in the surrounding area or upwind, and the ability of the atmosphere to disperse the contaminated air. The topographic and climatological factors discussed above influence the atmospheric pollution potential of an area. Atmospheric pollution potential, as the term is used here, is independent of the location of emission sources and is instead a function of factors described below.

### **Wind Circulation**

Low wind speed contributes to the buildup of air pollution because it allows more pollutants to be emitted into the air mass per unit of time. Light winds occur most frequently during periods of low sun (fall and winter, and early morning) and at night. These are also periods when air pollutant emissions from some sources are at their peak, namely, commute traffic (early morning) and wood burning appliances (nighttime). The problem can be compounded in valleys, when weak flows carry the pollutants upvalley during the day, and cold air drainage flows move the air mass downvalley at night. Such restricted movement of trapped air provides little opportunity for ventilation and leads to buildup of pollutants to potentially unhealthy levels.

Wind-roses provide useful information for communities that contain industry, landfills or other potentially odorous or noxious land uses. Each wind-rose diagram provides a general indication of the proportion of time that winds blow from each compass direction. The longer the vector length, the greater the frequency of wind occurring from that direction. Such information may be particularly useful in planning buffer zones. For example, sensitive receptors such as residential developments, schools or hospitals are inappropriate uses immediately downwind from facilities that emit toxic or odorous pollutants, unless adequate separation is provided by a buffer zone. Caution should be taken in using wind-roses in planning and environmental review processes. A site on the opposite side of a hill or tall building, even a short distance from a meteorological monitoring station, may experience a significant difference in wind pattern. Consult BAAQMD meteorologists if more detailed wind circulation information is needed.

### **Inversions**

An inversion is a layer of warmer air over a layer of cooler air. Inversions affect air quality conditions significantly because they influence the mixing depth, i.e., the vertical depth in the atmosphere available for diluting air contaminants near the ground. The highest air pollutant concentrations in the SFBAAB generally occur during inversions.

There are two types of inversions that occur regularly in the SFBAAB. One is more common in the summer and fall, while the other is most common during the winter. The frequent occurrence of elevated temperature inversions in summer and fall months acts to cap the mixing depth, limiting the depth of air available for dilution. Elevated inversions are caused by subsiding air from the subtropical high pressure zone, and from the cool marine air layer that is drawn into the SFBAAB by the heated low pressure region in the Central Valley.

The inversions typical of winter, called radiation inversions, are formed as heat quickly radiates from the earth's surface after sunset, causing the air in contact with it to rapidly cool. Radiation inversions are strongest on clear, low-wind, cold winter nights, allowing the build-up of such pollutants as carbon monoxide and particulate matter. When wind speeds are low, there is little mechanical turbulence to mix the air, resulting in a layer of warm air over a layer of cooler air next



to the ground. Mixing depths under these conditions can be as shallow as 50 to 100 meters, particularly in rural areas. Urban areas usually have deeper minimum mixing layers because of heat island effects and increased surface roughness. During radiation inversions downwind transport is slow, the mixing depths are shallow, and turbulence is minimal, all factors which contribute to ozone formation.

Although each type of inversion is most common during a specific season, either inversion mechanism can occur at any time of the year. Sometimes both occur simultaneously. Moreover, the characteristics of an inversion often change throughout the course of a day. The terrain of the SFBAAB also induces significant variations among subregions.

### **Solar Radiation**

The frequency of hot, sunny days during the summer months in the SFBAAB is another important factor that affects air pollution potential. It is at the higher temperatures that ozone is formed. In the presence of ultraviolet sunlight and warm temperatures, reactive organic gases and oxides of nitrogen react to form secondary photochemical pollutants, including ozone.

Because temperatures in many of the SFBAAB inland valleys are so much higher than near the coast, the inland areas are especially prone to photochemical air pollution.

In late fall and winter, solar angles are low, resulting in insufficient ultraviolet light and warming of the atmosphere to drive the photochemical reactions. Ozone concentrations do not reach significant levels in the SFBAAB during these seasons.

### **Sheltered Terrain**

The hills and mountains in the SFBAAB contribute to the high pollution potential of some areas. During the day, or at night during windy conditions, areas in the lee sides of mountains are sheltered from the prevailing winds, thereby reducing turbulence and downwind transport. At night, when wind speeds are low, the upper atmospheric layers are often decoupled from the surface layers during radiation conditions. If elevated terrain is present, it will tend to block pollutant transport in that direction. Elevated terrain also can create a recirculation pattern by inducing upvalley air flows during the day and reverse downvalley flows during the night, allowing little inflow of fresh air.

The areas having the highest air pollution potential tend to be those that experience the highest temperatures in the summer and the lowest temperatures in the winter. The coastal areas are exposed to the prevailing marine air, creating cooler temperatures in the summer, warmer temperatures in winter, and stratus clouds all year. The inland valleys are sheltered from the marine air and experience hotter summers and colder winters. Thus, the topography of the inland valleys creates conditions conducive to high air pollution potential.

### **Pollution Potential Related to Emissions**

Although air pollution potential is strongly influenced by climate and topography, the air pollution that occurs in a location also depends upon the amount of air pollutant emissions in the surrounding area or transported from more distant places. Air pollutant emissions generally are highest in areas that have high population densities, high motor vehicle use and/or industrialization. These contaminants created by photochemical processes in the atmosphere, such as ozone, may result in high concentrations many miles downwind from the sources of their precursor chemicals.

### **Climatological Subregions**

This section discusses the varying climatological and topographic conditions, and the resulting variations in air pollution potential, within inhabited subregions of the SFBAAB. All urbanized areas of the SFBAAB are included in one of 11 climatological subregions. Sparsely inhabited



areas are excluded from the subregional designations. Some of the climatological subregions discussed in this appendix overlap county boundaries. The Lead Agencies analyzing projects located close to the boundary between subregions may need to examine the characteristics of the neighboring subregions to adequately evaluate potential air quality impacts.

The information about each subregion includes location, topography and climatological factors relevant to air quality. Where relevant to air quality concerns, more localized subareas within a subregion are discussed. Each subregional section concludes with a discussion of pollution potential resulting from climatological and topographic variables and the major types of air pollutant sources in the subregion.

### **Carquinez Strait Region**

The Carquinez Strait runs from Rodeo to Martinez. It is the only sea-level gap between the Bay and the Central Valley. The subregion includes the lowlands bordering the strait to the north and south, and includes the area adjoining Suisun Bay and the western part of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as far east as Bethel Island. The subregion extends from Rodeo in the southwest and Vallejo in the northwest to Fairfield on the northeast and Brentwood on the southeast.

Prevailing winds are from the west in the Carquinez Strait. During the summer and fall months, high pressure offshore coupled with low pressure in the Central Valley causes marine air to flow eastward through the Carquinez Strait. The wind is strongest in the afternoon. Afternoon wind speeds of 15 to 20 mph are common throughout the strait region. Annual average wind speeds are 8 mph in Martinez, and 9 to 10 mph further east. Sometimes atmospheric conditions cause air to flow from the east. East winds usually contain more pollutants than the cleaner marine air from the west. In the summer and fall months, this can cause elevated pollutant levels to move into the central SFBAAB through the strait. These high pressure periods are usually accompanied by low wind speeds, shallow mixing depths, higher temperatures and little or no rainfall.

Summer mean maximum temperatures reach about 90° F. in the subregion. Mean minimum temperatures in the winter are in the high 30's. Temperature extremes are especially pronounced in sheltered areas farther from the moderating effects of the strait itself, e.g. at Fairfield.

Many industrial facilities with significant air pollutant emissions — e.g., chemical plants and refineries — are located within the Carquinez Strait Region. The pollution potential of this area is often moderated by high wind speeds. However, upsets at industrial facilities can lead to short-term pollution episodes, and emissions of unpleasant odors may occur at anytime. Receptors downwind of these facilities could suffer more long-term exposure to air contaminants than individuals elsewhere. It is important that local governments and other Lead Agencies maintain buffers zones around sources of air pollution sufficient to avoid adverse health and nuisance impacts on nearby receptors. Areas of the subregion that are traversed by major roadways, e.g. Interstate 80, may also be subject to higher local concentrations of carbon monoxide and particulate matter, as well as certain toxic air contaminants such as benzene.

### **Cotati and Petaluma Valleys**

The subregion that stretches from Santa Rosa to the San Pablo Bay is often considered as two different valleys: the Cotati Valley in the north and the Petaluma Valley in the south. To the east, the valley is bordered by the Sonoma Mountains, while to the west is a series of low hills, followed by the Estero Lowlands, which open to the Pacific Ocean. The region from the Estero Lowlands to the San Pablo Bay is known as the Petaluma Gap. This low-terrain area allows marine air to travel into the SFBAAB.

Wind patterns in the Petaluma and Cotati Valleys are strongly influenced by the Petaluma Gap, with winds flowing predominantly from the west. As marine air travels through the Petaluma Gap, it splits into northward and southward paths moving into the Cotati and Petaluma valleys. The



southward path crosses San Pablo Bay and moves eastward through the Carquinez Strait. The northward path contributes to Santa Rosa's prevailing winds from the south and southeast. Petaluma's prevailing winds are from the northwest.

When the ocean breeze is weak, strong winds from the east can predominate, carrying pollutants from the Central Valley and the Carquinez Strait. During these periods, upvalley flows can carry the polluted air as far north as Santa Rosa.

Winds are usually stronger in the Petaluma Valley than the Cotati Valley because the former is directly in line with the Petaluma Gap. Petaluma's climate is similar to areas closer to the coast even though Petaluma is 28 miles from the ocean. Average annual wind speed at the Petaluma Airport is seven mph. The Cotati Valley, being slightly north of the Petaluma Gap, experiences lower wind speeds. The annual average wind speed in Santa Rosa is five mph.

Air temperatures are very similar in the two valleys. Summer maximum temperatures for this subregion are in the low-to-mid-80's, while winter maximum temperatures are in the high-50's to low-60's. Summer minimum temperatures are around 50 degrees, and winter minimum temperatures are in the high 30's.

Generally, air pollution potential is low in the Petaluma Valley because of its link to the Petaluma Gap and because of its low population density. There are two scenarios that could produce elevated pollutant levels: 1) stagnant conditions in the morning hours created when a weak ocean breeze meets a weak bay breeze, and 2) an eastern or southeastern wind pattern in the afternoon brings in pollution from the Carquinez Strait Region and the Central Valley.

The Cotati Valley has a higher pollution potential than does the Petaluma Valley. The Cotati Valley lacks a gap to the sea, contains a larger population and has natural barriers at its northern and eastern ends. There are also industrial facilities in and around Santa Rosa. Both valleys of this subregion are also threatened by increased motor vehicle traffic and the associated air contaminants. Population and motor vehicle use are increasing significantly, and housing costs and the suburbanization of employment are leading to more and longer commutes traversing the subregion.

#### **Diablo and San Ramon Valleys**

East of the Coast Range lay the Diablo and San Ramon Valleys. The valleys have a northwest to southeast orientation, with the northern portion known as Diablo Valley and the southern portion as San Ramon Valley. The Diablo Valley is bordered in the north by the Carquinez Strait and in the south by the San Ramon Valley. The San Ramon Valley is long and narrow and extends south from Walnut Creek to Dublin. At its southern end it opens onto the Amador Valley.

The mountains on the west side of these valleys block much of the marine air from reaching the valleys. During the daytime, there are two predominant flow patterns: an upvalley flow from the north and a westerly flow (wind from the west) across the lower elevations of the Coast Range. On clear nights, surface inversions separate the flow of air into two layers: the surface flow and the upper layer flow. When this happens, there are often drainage surface winds which flow downvalley toward the Carquinez Strait.

Wind speeds in these valleys generally are low. Monitoring stations in Concord and Danville report annual average wind speeds of 5 mph. Winds can increase in the afternoon near San Ramon because it is located at the eastern edge of the Crow Canyon gap. Through this gap, polluted air from cities near the Bay travels to the valley in the summer months.

Air temperatures in these valleys are cooler in the winter and warmer in the summer than are temperatures further west, as these valleys are far from the moderating effect of the Bay and



ocean. Mean summer maximum temperatures are in the low- to mid-80's. Mean winter minimum temperatures are in the high-30's to low-40's.

Pollution potential is relatively high in these valleys. On winter evenings, light winds combined with surface-based inversions and terrain that restricts air flow can cause pollutant levels to build up. San Ramon Valley can experience high pollution concentrations due to motor vehicle emissions and emissions from fireplaces and wood stoves. In the summer months, ozone and ozone precursors are often transported into the valleys from both the central SFBAAB and the Central Valley.

#### Livermore Valley

The Livermore Valley is a sheltered inland valley near the eastern border of SFBAAB. The western side of the valley is bordered by 1,000 to 1,500 foot hills with two gaps connecting the valley to the central SFBAAB, the Hayward Pass and Niles Canyon. The eastern side of the valley also is bordered by 1,000 to 1,500 foot hills with one major passage to the San Joaquin Valley called the Altamont Pass and several secondary passages. To the north lie the Black Hills and Mount Diablo. A northwest to southeast channel connects the Diablo Valley to the Livermore Valley. The south side of the Livermore Valley is bordered by mountains approximately 3,000 to 3,500 feet high.

During the summer months, when there is a strong inversion with a low ceiling, air movement is weak and pollutants become trapped and concentrated. Maximum summer temperatures in the Livermore Valley range from the high-80's to the low-90's, with extremes in the 100's. At other times in the summer, a strong Pacific high pressure cell from the west, coupled with hot inland temperatures causes a strong onshore pressure gradient which produces a strong, afternoon wind. With a weak temperature inversion, air moves over the hills with ease, dispersing pollutants.

In the winter, with the exception of an occasional storm moving through the area, air movement is often dictated by local conditions. At night and early morning, especially under clear, calm and cold conditions, gravity drives cold air downward. The cold air drains off the hills and moves into the gaps and passes. On the eastern side of the valley the prevailing winds blow from north, northeast and east out of the Altamont Pass. Winds are light during the late night and early morning hours. Winter daytime winds sometimes flow from the south through the Altamont Pass to the San Joaquin Valley. Average winter maximum temperatures range from the high-50's to the low-60's, while minimum temperatures are from the mid-to-high-30's, with extremes in the high teens and low-20's.

Air pollution potential is high in the Livermore Valley, especially for photochemical pollutants in the summer and fall. High temperatures increase the potential for ozone to build up. The valley not only traps locally generated pollutants but can be the receptor of ozone and ozone precursors from San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties. On northeasterly wind flow days, most common in the early fall, ozone may be carried west from the San Joaquin Valley to the Livermore Valley.

During the winter, the sheltering effect of the valley, its distance from moderating water bodies, and the presence of a strong high pressure system contribute to the development of strong, surface-based temperature inversions. Pollutants such as carbon monoxide and particulate matter, generated by motor vehicles, fireplaces and agricultural burning, can become concentrated. Air pollution problems could intensify because of population growth and increased commuting to and through the subregion.



### **Marin County Basins**

Marin County is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the east by San Pablo Bay, on the south by the Golden Gate and on the north by the Petaluma Gap. Most of Marin's population lives in the eastern part of the county, in small, sheltered valleys. These valleys act like a series of miniature air basins.

Although there are a few mountains above 1500 feet, most of the terrain is only 800 to 1000 feet high, which usually is not high enough to block the marine layer. Because of the wedge shape of the county, northeast Marin County is further from the ocean than is the southeastern section. This extra distance from the ocean allows the marine air to be moderated by bayside conditions as it travels to northeastern Marin County. In southern Marin the distance from the ocean is short and elevations are lower, resulting in higher incidence of maritime air in that area.

Wind speeds are highest along the west coast of Marin, averaging about 8 to 10 miles per hour. The complex terrain in central Marin creates sufficient friction to slow the air flow. At Hamilton Air Force Base, in Novato, the annual average wind speeds are only 5 mph. The prevailing wind directions throughout Marin County are generally from the northwest.

In the summer months, areas along the coast are usually subject to onshore movement of cool marine air. In the winter, proximity to the ocean keeps the coastal regions relatively warm, with temperatures varying little throughout the year. Coastal temperatures are usually in the high-50's in the winter and the low-60's in the summer. The warmest months are September and October.

The eastern side of Marin County has warmer weather than the western side because of its distance from the ocean and because the hills that separate eastern Marin from western Marin occasionally block the flow of the marine air. The temperatures of cities next to the Bay are moderated by the cooling effect of the Bay in the summer and the warming effect of the Bay in the winter. For example, San Rafael experiences average maximum summer temperatures in the low-80's and average minimum winter temperatures in the low-40's. Inland towns such as Kentfield experience average maximum temperatures that are two degrees cooler in the winter and two degrees warmer in the summer.

Air pollution potential is highest in eastern Marin County, where most of population is located in semi-sheltered valleys. In the southeast, the influence of marine air keeps pollution levels low. As development moves further north, there is greater potential for air pollution to build up because the valleys are more sheltered from the sea breeze. While Marin County does not have many polluting industries, the air quality on its eastern side — especially along the U.S. 101 corridor — may be affected by emissions from increasing motor vehicle use within and through the county.

### **Napa Valley**

The Napa Valley is bordered by relatively high mountains. With an average ridge line height of about 2000 feet, with some peaks approaching 3000 to 4000 feet, these mountains are effective barriers to the prevailing northwesterly winds. The Napa Valley is widest at its southern end and narrows in the north.

During the day, the prevailing winds flow upvalley from the south about half of the time. A strong upvalley wind frequently develops during warm summer afternoons, drawing air in from the San Pablo Bay. Daytime winds sometimes flow downvalley from the north. During the evening, especially in the winter, downvalley drainage often occurs. Wind speeds are generally low, with almost 50 percent of the winds less than 4 mph. Only 5 percent of the winds are between 16 and 18 mph, representing strong summertime upvalley winds and winter storms.

Summer average maximum temperatures are in the low 80's at the southern end of the valley and in the low 90's at the northern end. Winter average maximum temperatures are in the high-



50's and low-60's, and minimum temperatures are in the high to mid 30's with the slightly cooler temperatures in the northern end.

The air pollution potential in the Napa Valley could be high if there were sufficient sources of air contaminants nearby. Summer and fall prevailing winds can transport ozone precursors northward from the Carquinez Strait Region to the Napa Valley, effectively trapping and concentrating the pollutants when stable conditions are present. The local upslope and downslope flows created by the surrounding mountains may also recirculate pollutants already present, contributing to buildup of air pollution. High ozone concentrations are a potential problem to sensitive crops such as wine grapes, as well as to human health. The high frequency of light winds and stable conditions during the late fall and winter contribute to the buildup of particulate matter from motor vehicles, agriculture and wood burning in fireplaces and stoves.

#### **Northern Alameda and Western Contra Costa Counties**

This climatological subregion stretches from Richmond to San Leandro. Its western boundary is defined by the Bay and its eastern boundary by the Oakland-Berkeley Hills. The Oakland-Berkeley Hills have a ridge line height of approximately 1500 feet, a significant barrier to air flow. The most densely populated area of the subregion lies in a strip of land between the Bay and the lower hills.

In this area, marine air traveling through the Golden Gate, as well as across San Francisco and through the San Bruno Gap, is a dominant weather factor. The Oakland-Berkeley Hills cause the westerly flow of air to split off to the north and south of Oakland, which causes diminished wind speeds. The prevailing winds for most of this subregion are from the west. At the northern end, near Richmond, prevailing winds are from the south-southwest.

Temperatures in this subregion have a narrow range due to the proximity of the moderating marine air. Maximum temperatures during summer average in the mid-70's, with minimums in the mid-50's. Winter highs are in the mid- to high-50's, with lows in the low- to mid-40's.

The air pollution potential is lowest for the parts of the subregion that are closest to the bay, due largely to good ventilation and less influx of pollutants from upwind sources. The occurrence of light winds in the evenings and early mornings occasionally causes elevated pollutant levels.

The air pollution potential at the northern (Richmond) and southern (Oakland, San Leandro) parts of this subregion is marginally higher than communities directly east of the Golden Gate, because of the lower frequency of strong winds.

This subregion contains a variety of industrial air pollution sources. Some industries are quite close to residential areas. The subregion is also traversed by frequently congested major freeways. Traffic and congestion, and the motor vehicle emissions they generate, are increasing.

#### **Peninsula**

The peninsula region extends from northwest of San Jose to the Golden Gate. The Santa Cruz Mountains run up the center of the peninsula, with elevations exceeding 2000 feet at the southern end, decreasing to 500 feet in South San Francisco. Coastal towns experience a high incidence of cool, foggy weather in the summer. Cities in the southeastern peninsula experience warmer temperatures and fewer foggy days because the marine layer is blocked by the ridgeline to the west. San Francisco lies at the northern end of the peninsula. Because most of San Francisco's topography is below 200 feet, marine air is able to flow easily across most of the city, making its climate cool and windy.

The blocking effect of the Santa Cruz Mountains results in variations in summertime maximum temperatures in different parts of the peninsula. For example, in coastal areas and San Francisco



the mean maximum summer temperatures are in the mid-60's, while in Redwood City the mean maximum summer temperatures are in the low-80's. Mean minimum temperatures during the winter months are in the high-30's to low-40's on the eastern side of the Peninsula and in the low 40's on the coast.

Two important gaps in the Santa Cruz Mountains occur on the peninsula. The larger of the two is the San Bruno Gap, extending from Fort Funston on the ocean to the San Francisco Airport. Because the gap is oriented in the same northwest to southeast direction as the prevailing winds, and because the elevations along the gap are less than 200 feet, marine air is easily able to penetrate into the bay. The other gap is the Crystal Springs Gap, between Half Moon Bay and San Carlos. As the sea breeze strengthens on summer afternoons, the gap permits maritime air to pass across the mountains, and its cooling effect is commonly seen from San Mateo to Redwood City.

Annual average wind speeds range from 5 to 10 mph throughout the peninsula, with higher wind speeds usually found along the coast. Winds on the eastern side of the peninsula are often high in certain areas, such as near the San Bruno Gap and the Crystal Springs Gap.

The prevailing winds along the peninsula's coast are from the west, although individual sites can show significant differences. For example, Fort Funston in western San Francisco shows a southwest wind pattern while Pillar Point in San Mateo County shows a northwest wind pattern. On the east side of the mountains winds are generally from the west, although wind patterns in this area are often influenced greatly by local topographic features.

Air pollution potential is highest along the southeastern portion of the peninsula. This is the area most protected from the high winds and fog of the marine layer. Pollutant transport from upwind sites is common. In the southeastern portion of the peninsula, air pollutant emissions are relatively high due to motor vehicle traffic as well as stationary sources. At the northern end of the peninsula in San Francisco, pollutant emissions are high, especially from motor vehicle congestion. Localized pollutants, such as carbon monoxide, can build up in "urban canyons." Winds are generally fast enough to carry the pollutants away before they can accumulate.

### **Santa Clara Valley**

The Santa Clara Valley is bounded by the Bay to the north and by mountains to the east, south and west. Temperatures are warm on summer days and cool on summer nights, and winter temperatures are fairly mild. At the northern end of the valley, mean maximum temperatures are in the low-80's during the summer and the high-50's during the winter, and mean minimum temperatures range from the high-50's in the summer to the low-40's in the winter. Further inland, where the moderating effect of the Bay is not as strong, temperature extremes are greater. For example, in San Martin, located 27 miles south of the San Jose Airport, temperatures can be more than 10 degrees warmer on summer afternoons and more than 10 degrees cooler on winter nights.

Winds in the valley are greatly influenced by the terrain, resulting in a prevailing flow that roughly parallels the valley's northwest-southeast axis. A north-northwesterly sea breeze flows through the valley during the afternoon and early evening, and a light south-southeasterly drainage flow occurs during the late evening and early morning. In the summer the southern end of the valley sometimes becomes a "convergence zone," when air flowing from the Monterey Bay gets channeled northward into the southern end of the valley and meets with the prevailing north-northwesterly winds.

Wind speeds are greatest in the spring and summer and weakest in the fall and winter. Nighttime and early morning hours frequently have calm winds in all seasons, while summer afternoons and



evenings are quite breezy. Strong winds are rare, associated mostly with the occasional winter storm.

The air pollution potential of the Santa Clara Valley is high. High summer temperatures, stable air and mountains surrounding the valley combine to promote ozone formation. In addition to the many local sources of pollution, ozone precursors from San Francisco, San Mateo and Alameda Counties are carried by prevailing winds to the Santa Clara Valley. The valley tends to channel pollutants to the southeast. In addition, on summer days with low level inversions, ozone can be recirculated by southerly drainage flows in the late evening and early morning and by the prevailing northwesterlies in the afternoon. A similar recirculation pattern occurs in the winter, affecting levels of carbon monoxide and particulate matter. This movement of the air up and down the valley increases the impact of the pollutants significantly.

Pollution sources are plentiful and complex in this subregion. The Santa Clara Valley has a high concentration of industry at the northern end, in the Silicon Valley. Some of these industries are sources of air toxics as well as criteria air pollutants. In addition, Santa Clara Valley's large population and many work-site destinations generate the highest mobile source emissions of any subregion in the SFBAAB.

#### **Sonoma Valley**

The Sonoma Valley is west of the Napa Valley. It is separated from the Napa Valley and from the Cotati and Petaluma Valleys by mountains. The Sonoma Valley is long and narrow, approximately 5 miles wide at its southern end and less than a mile wide at the northern end.

The climate is similar to that of the Napa Valley, with the same basic wind characteristics. The strongest upvalley winds occur in the afternoon during the summer and the strongest downvalley winds occur during clear, calm winter nights. Prevailing winds follow the axis of the valley, northwest/southeast, while some upslope flow during the day and downslope flow during the night occurs near the base of the mountains. Summer average maximum temperatures are usually in the high-80's, and summer minimums are around 50 degrees. Winter maximums are in the high-50's to the mid-60's, with minimums ranging from the mid-30's to low-40's.

As in the Napa Valley, the air pollution potential of the Sonoma Valley could be high if there were significant sources of pollution nearby. Prevailing winds can transport local and nonlocally generated pollutants northward into the narrow valley, which often traps and concentrates the pollutants under stable conditions. The local upslope and downslope flows set up by the surrounding mountains may also recirculate pollutants.

However, local sources of air pollution are minor. With the exception of some processing of agricultural goods, such as wine and cheese manufacturing, there is little industry in this valley. Increases in motor vehicle emissions and woodsmoke emissions from stoves and fireplaces may increase pollution as the valley grows in population and as a tourist attraction.

#### **Southwestern Alameda County**

This subregion encompasses the southeast side of San Francisco Bay, from Dublin Canyon to north of Milpitas. The subregion is bordered on the east by the East Bay hills and on the west by the bay. Most of the area is flat.

This subregion is indirectly affected by marine air flow. Marine air entering through the Golden Gate is blocked by the East Bay hills, forcing the air to diverge into northerly and southerly paths. The southern flow is directed down the bay, parallel to the hills, where it eventually passes over southwestern Alameda County. These sea breezes are strongest in the afternoon. The further from the ocean the marine air travels, the more the ocean's effect is diminished. Although the



climate in this region is affected by sea breezes, it is affected less so than the regions closer to the Golden Gate.

The climate of southwestern Alameda County is also affected by its close proximity to San Francisco Bay. The Bay cools the air with which it comes in contact during warm weather, while during cold weather the Bay warms the air. The normal northwest wind pattern carries this air onshore. Bay breezes push cool air onshore during the daytime and draw air from the land offshore at night.

Winds are predominantly out of the northwest during the summer months. In the winter, winds are equally likely to be from the east. Easterly-southeasterly surface flow into southern Alameda County passes through three major gaps: Hayward/Dublin Canyon, Niles Canyon and Mission Pass. Areas north of the gaps experience winds from the southeast, while areas south of the gaps experience winds from the northeast. Wind speeds are moderate in this subregion, with annual average wind speeds close to the Bay at about 7 mph, while further inland they average 6 mph.

Air temperatures are moderated by the subregion's proximity to the Bay and to the sea breeze. Temperatures are slightly cooler in the winter and slightly warmer in the summer than East Bay cities to the north. During the summer months, average maximum temperatures are in the mid-70's. Average maximum winter temperatures are in the high-50's to low-60's. Average minimum temperatures are in the low 40's in winter and mid-50's in the summer.

Pollution potential is relatively high in this subregion during the summer and fall. When high pressure dominates, low mixing depths and Bay and ocean wind patterns can concentrate and carry pollutants from other cities to this area, adding to the locally emitted pollutant mix. The polluted air is then pushed up against the East Bay hills. In the wintertime, the air pollution potential in southwestern Alameda County is moderate. Air pollution sources include light and heavy industry, and motor vehicles. Increasing motor vehicle traffic and congestion in the subregion may increase Southwest Alameda County pollution as well as that of its neighboring subregions.

### **C.1.2. Existing Ambient Air Quality: Criteria Air Pollutants**

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) currently focus on the following air pollutants as indicators of ambient air quality: ozone, particulate matter (PM), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), CO, sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and lead. Because these are the most prevalent air pollutants known to be deleterious to human health and extensive health-effects criteria documents are available, they are commonly referred to as "criteria air pollutants." Sources and health effects of the criteria air pollutants are summarized in Table C.2. Current state and federal air quality standards are available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/aaqs2.pdf> and designations are available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/degis/degis.htm>. See Table C.1 for current attainment status.



**Table C.1  
Ambient Air Quality Standards and Designations**

Pollutant	Averaging Time	California		National Standards <sup>a</sup>		
		Standards <sup>b, c</sup>	Attainment Status <sup>d</sup>	Primary <sup>c, e</sup>	Secondary <sup>c, f</sup>	Attainment Status <sup>g</sup>
Ozone	1-hour	0.09 ppm (180 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	N (Serious)	– <sup>h</sup>	Same as Primary Standard	– <sup>h</sup>
	8-hour	0.070 ppm (137 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–	0.075 ppm (147 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )		N
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1-hour	20 ppm (23 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	A	35 ppm (40 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–	U/A
	8-hour	9 ppm (10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		9 ppm (10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.030 ppm (57 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–	0.053 ppm (100 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Same as Primary Standard	U/A
	1-hour	0.18 ppm (339 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	A	–		–
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual Arithmetic Mean	–	–	0.030 ppm (80 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–	A
	24-hour	0.04 ppm (105 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	A	0.14 ppm (365 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–	
	3-hour	–	–	–	0.5 ppm (1300 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	
	1-hour	0.25 ppm (655 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	A	–	–	
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Annual Arithmetic Mean	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N	– <sup>h</sup>	Same as Primary Standard	U
	24-hour	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Fine Particulate Matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Annual Arithmetic Mean	12 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N	15 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Same as Primary Standard	N <sup>j</sup>
	24-hour	–	–	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Lead <sup>i</sup>	30-day Average	1.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	A	–	–	–
	Calendar Quarter	–	–	1.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Same as Primary Standard	–

Pollutant	Averaging Time	California		National Standards <sup>a</sup>		
		Standards <sup>b, c</sup>	Attainment Status <sup>d</sup>	Primary <sup>c, e</sup>	Secondary <sup>c, f</sup>	Attainment Status <sup>g</sup>
Sulfates	24-hour	25 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	A	<b>No National Standards</b>		
Hydrogen Sulfide	1-hour	0.03 ppm (42 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	U			
Vinyl Chloride <sup>h</sup>	24-hour	0.01 ppm (26 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	–			
Visibility-Reducing Particle Matter	8-hour	Extinction coefficient of 0.23 per kilometer —visibility of 10 miles or more (0.07—30 miles or more for Lake Tahoe) because of particles when the relative humidity is less than 70%.	U			

<sup>a</sup> National standards (other than ozone, PM, and those based on annual averages or annual arithmetic means) are not to be exceeded more than once a year. The ozone standard is attained when the fourth highest 8-hour concentration in a year, averaged over 3 years, is equal to or less than the standard. The PM<sub>10</sub> 24-hour standard is attained when 99% of the daily concentrations, averaged over 3 years, are equal to or less than the standard. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> 24-hour standard is attained when 98% of the daily concentrations, averaged over 3 years, are equal to or less than the standard. Contact the EPA for further clarification and current federal policies.

<sup>b</sup> California standards for ozone, CO (except Lake Tahoe), SO<sub>2</sub> (1- and 24-hour), NO<sub>2</sub>, PM, and visibility-reducing particles are values that are not to be exceeded. All others are not to be equaled or exceeded. CAAQS are listed in the Table of Standards in Section 70200 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

<sup>c</sup> Concentration expressed first in units in which it was promulgated [i.e., parts per million (ppm) or micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)]. Equivalent units given in parentheses are based upon a reference temperature of 25°C and a reference pressure of 760 torr. Most measurements of air quality are to be corrected to a reference temperature of 25°C and a reference pressure of 760 torr; ppm in this table refers to ppm by volume, or micromoles of pollutant per mole of gas.

<sup>d</sup> Unclassified (U): a pollutant is designated unclassified if the data are incomplete and do not support a designation of attainment or nonattainment.  
 Attainment (A): a pollutant is designated attainment if the state standard for that pollutant was not violated at any site in the area during a 3-year period.  
 Nonattainment (N): a pollutant is designated nonattainment if there was a least one violation of a state standard for that pollutant in the area.  
 Nonattainment/Transitional (NT): is a subcategory of the nonattainment designation. An area is designated nonattainment/transitional to signify that the area is close to attaining the standard for that pollutant.

<sup>e</sup> National Primary Standards: The levels of air quality necessary, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health.

<sup>f</sup> National Secondary Standards: The levels of air quality necessary to protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant.

<sup>g</sup> Nonattainment (N): any area that does not meet (or that contributes to ambient air quality in a nearby area that does not meet) the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the pollutant.  
 Attainment (A): any area that meets the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the pollutant.  
 Unclassifiable (U): any area that cannot be classified on the basis of available information as meeting or not meeting the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the pollutant.

<sup>h</sup> The 1-hour ozone NAAQS was revoked on June 15, 2005 and the annual PM<sub>10</sub> NAAQS was revoked in 2006.

<sup>i</sup> ARB has identified lead and vinyl chloride as toxic air contaminants with no threshold of exposure for adverse health effects determined. These actions allow for the implementation of control measures at levels below the ambient concentrations specified for this pollutant.

<sup>j</sup> U.S EPA lowered the 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard from 65 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2006. EPA issued attainment status designations for the 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> standard on December 22, 2008. EPA has designated the Bay Area as nonattainment for the 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard. The EPA designation will be effective 90 days after publication of the regulation in the Federal Register.



**Table C.2  
Common Sources of Health Effects for Criteria Air Pollutants**

Pollutants	Sources	Health Effects
Ozone	Atmospheric reaction of organic gases with nitrogen oxides in sunlight	Aggravation of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases; reduced lung function; increased cough and chest discomfort
Fine Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> and PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Stationary combustion of solid fuels; construction activities; industrial processes; atmospheric chemical reactions	Reduced lung function; aggravation of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases; increases in mortality rate; reduced lung function growth in children
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Motor vehicle exhaust; high temperature stationary combustion; atmospheric reactions	Aggravation of respiratory illness
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Incomplete combustion of fuels and other carbon-containing substances, such as motor vehicle exhaust; natural events, such as decomposition of organic matter	Aggravation of some heart diseases; reduced tolerance for exercise; impairment of mental function; birth defects; death at high levels of exposure
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Combination of sulfur-containing fossil fuels; smelting of sulfur-bearing metal ore; industrial processes	Aggravation of respiratory diseases; reduced lung function
Lead	Contaminated soil	Behavioral and hearing disabilities in children; nervous system impairment

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District 2005; EPA 2009; EDAW 2009

**Ozone**, or smog, is not emitted directly into the environment, but is formed in the atmosphere by complex chemical reactions between ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> in the presence of sunlight. Ozone formation is greatest on warm, windless, sunny days. The main sources of NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG, often referred to as ozone precursors, are combustion processes (including motor vehicle engines) the evaporation of solvents, paints, and fuels, and biogenic sources. Automobiles are the single largest source of ozone precursors in the SFBAAB. Tailpipe emissions of ROG are highest during cold starts, hard acceleration, stop-and-go conditions, and slow speeds. They decline as speeds increase up to about 50 mph, then increase again at high speeds and high engine loads. ROG emissions associated with evaporation of unburned fuel depend on vehicle and ambient temperature cycles. Nitrogen oxide emissions exhibit a different curve; emissions decrease as the vehicle approaches 30 mph and then begin to increase with increasing speeds.

Ozone levels usually build up during the day and peak in the afternoon hours. Short-term exposure can irritate the eyes and cause constriction of the airways. Besides causing shortness of breath, it can aggravate existing respiratory diseases such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema. Chronic exposure to high ozone levels can permanently damage lung tissue. Ozone can also damage plants and trees, and materials such as rubber and fabrics.

**Particulate Matter** refers to a wide range of solid or liquid particles in the atmosphere, including smoke, dust, aerosols, and metallic oxides. Respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometers or less is referred to as PM<sub>10</sub>. PM<sub>2.5</sub> includes a subgroup of finer particles that have an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less. Some particulate matter,



such as pollen, is naturally occurring. In the SFBAAB most particulate matter is caused by combustion, factories, construction, grading, demolition, agricultural activities, and motor vehicles. Extended exposure to particulate matter can increase the risk of chronic respiratory disease.  $PM_{10}$  is of concern because it bypasses the body's natural filtration system more easily than larger particles, and can lodge deep in the lungs. The EPA and the state of California revised their PM standards several years ago to apply only to these fine particles.  $PM_{2.5}$  poses an increased health risk because the particles can deposit deep in the lungs and contain substances that are particularly harmful to human health. Motor vehicles are currently responsible for about half of particulates in the SFBAAB. Wood burning in fireplaces and stoves is another large source of fine particulates.

**Nitrogen Dioxide ( $NO_2$ )** is a reddish-brown gas that is a by-product of combustion processes. Automobiles and industrial operations are the main sources of  $NO_2$ . Aside from its contribution to ozone formation, nitrogen dioxide can increase the risk of acute and chronic respiratory disease and reduce visibility.  $NO_2$  may be visible as a coloring component of a brown cloud on high pollution days, especially in conjunction with high ozone levels.

**Carbon Monoxide (CO)** is an odorless, colorless gas. It is formed by the incomplete combustion of fuels. The single largest source of CO in the SFBAAB is motor vehicles. Emissions are highest during cold starts, hard acceleration, stop-and-go driving, and when a vehicle is moving at low speeds. New findings indicate that CO emissions per mile are lowest at about 45 mph for the average light-duty motor vehicle and begin to increase again at higher speeds. When inhaled at high concentrations, CO combines with hemoglobin in the blood and reduces the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood. This results in reduced oxygen reaching the brain, heart and other body tissues. This condition is especially critical for people with cardiovascular diseases, chronic lung disease or anemia, as well as fetuses. Even healthy people exposed to high CO concentrations can experience headaches, dizziness, fatigue, unconsciousness, and even death.

**Sulfur Dioxide ( $SO_2$ )** is a colorless acid gas with a pungent odor. It has potential to damage materials and it can have health effects at high concentrations. It is produced by the combustion of sulfur-containing fuels, such as oil, coal and diesel.  $SO_2$  can irritate lung tissue and increase the risk of acute and chronic respiratory disease.

**Lead** is a metal found naturally in the environment as well as in manufactured products. The major sources of lead emissions have historically been mobile and industrial sources. As a result of the phase-out of leaded gasoline, metal processing is currently the primary source of lead emissions. The highest levels of lead in air are generally found near lead smelters. Other stationary sources are waste incinerators, utilities, and lead-acid battery manufacturers.

Twenty years ago, mobile sources were the main contributor to ambient lead concentrations in the air. In the early 1970s, the EPA set national regulations to gradually reduce the lead content in gasoline. In 1975, unleaded gasoline was introduced for motor vehicles equipped with catalytic converters. The EPA banned the use of leaded gasoline in highway vehicles in December 1995. As a result of the EPA's regulatory efforts to remove lead from gasoline, emissions of lead from the transportation sector and levels of lead in the air decreased dramatically.

### **Monitoring Data**

The BAAQMD operates a regional air quality monitoring network that regularly measures the concentrations of the five major criteria air pollutants. Air pollutant monitoring data is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/welcome.html>. Air quality conditions in the SFBAAB have improved significantly since the BAAQMD was created in 1955. Ambient concentrations and the number of days on which the region exceeds standards have declined dramatically. Neither State nor



national ambient air quality standards of these chemicals have been violated in recent decades for nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and vinyl chloride.

### **Emissions Inventory**

The BAAQMD estimates emissions of criteria air pollutants from approximately nine hundred source categories. The estimates are based on BAAQMD permit information for stationary sources (e.g., manufacturing industries, refineries, dry-cleaning operations), plus more generalized estimates for area sources (e.g., space heating, landscaping activities, use of consumer products) and mobile sources (e.g., trains, ships and planes, as well as on-road and off-road motor vehicles). BAAQMD emissions inventory data is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ei/maps/statemap/dismap.htm>.

### **C.1.2. Existing Ambient Air Quality: Toxic Air Contaminants**

In addition to the criteria air pollutants listed above, another group of pollutants, commonly referred to as toxic air contaminants (TACs) or hazardous air pollutants can result in health effects that can be quite severe. Many TACs are confirmed or suspected carcinogens, or are known or suspected to cause birth defects or neurological damage. Secondly, many TACs can be toxic at very low concentrations. For some chemicals, such as carcinogens, there are no thresholds below which exposure can be considered risk-free.

Industrial facilities and mobile sources are significant sources of TACs. The electronics industry, including semiconductor manufacturing, has the potential to contaminate both air and water due to the highly toxic chlorinated solvents commonly used in semiconductor production processes. Sources of TACs go beyond industry. Various common urban facilities also produce TAC emissions, such as gasoline stations (benzene), hospitals (ethylene oxide), and dry cleaners (perchloroethylene). Automobile exhaust also contains TACs such as benzene and 1,3-butadiene. Most recently, diesel particulate matter was identified as a TAC by the ARB. Diesel PM differs from other TACs in that it is not a single substance but rather a complex mixture of hundreds of substances. BAAQMD research indicates that mobile-source emissions of diesel PM, benzene, and 1,3-butadiene represent a substantial portion of the ambient background risk from TACs in the SFBAAB.

### **C.1.3. Greenhouse Gases and Global Climate Change**

Unlike emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants, which have local or regional impacts, emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) that contribute to global warming or global climate change have a broader, global impact. Global warming is a process whereby GHGs accumulating in the atmosphere contribute to an increase in the temperature of the earth's atmosphere. The principal GHGs contributing to global warming are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and fluorinated compounds. The primary GHGs of concern are summarized in Table C.3. These gases allow visible and ultraviolet light from the sun to pass through the atmosphere, but they prevent heat from escaping back out into space. Among the potential implications of global warming are rising sea levels, and adverse impacts to water supply, water quality, agriculture, forestry, and habitats. In addition, global warming may increase electricity demand for cooling, decrease the availability of hydroelectric power, and affect regional air quality and public health. Like most criteria and toxic air pollutants, much of the GHG production comes from motor vehicles. GHG emissions can be reduced to some degree by improved coordination of land use and transportation planning on the city, county, and subregional level, and other measures to reduce automobile use. Energy conservation measures also can contribute to reductions in GHG emissions.



<b>Gas</b>	<b>Sources</b>
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Fossil fuel combustion in stationary and point sources; emission sources includes burning of oil, coal, gas.
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	Incomplete combustion in forest fires, landfills, and leaks in natural gas and petroleum systems, agricultural activities, coal mining, wastewater treatment, and certain industrial processes.
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	Fossil fuel combustion in stationary and point sources; other emission sources include agricultural soil management, animal manure management, sewage treatment, adipic acid production, and nitric acid production.
Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC), and Hydro-chlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)	Agents used in production of foam insulation; other sources include air conditioners, refrigerators, and solvents in cleaners.
Sulfur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> )	Electric insulation in high voltage equipment that transmits and distributes electricity, including circuit breakers, gas-insulated substations, and other switchgear used in the transmission system to manage the high voltages carried between generating stations and customer load centers.
Perfluorocarbons (PFC's)	Primary aluminum production and semiconductor manufacturing.

Source: EPA 2009

### **California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory**

Emissions of GHGs contributing to global climate change are attributable in large part to human activities associated with the transportation, industrial/manufacturing, utility, residential, commercial and agricultural sectors. In California, the transportation sector is the largest emitter of GHGs, followed by electricity generation. Emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> are byproducts of fossil fuel combustion. CH<sub>4</sub>, a highly potent GHG, results from off-gassing (the release of chemicals from nonmetallic substances under ambient or greater pressure conditions) is largely associated with agricultural practices and landfills. N<sub>2</sub>O is also largely attributable to agricultural practices and soil management. CO<sub>2</sub> sinks, or reservoirs, include vegetation and the ocean, which absorb CO<sub>2</sub> through sequestration and dissolution, respectively, two of the most common processes of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration.

California produced 474 million gross metric tons (MMT) of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) averaged over the period from 2002-2004. CO<sub>2</sub>e is a measurement used to account for the fact that different GHGs have different potential to retain infrared radiation in the atmosphere and contribute to the greenhouse effect. This potential, known as the global warming potential (GWP) of a GHG, is dependent on the lifetime, or persistence, of the gas molecule in the atmosphere. For example, one ton of CH<sub>4</sub> has the same contribution to the greenhouse effect as approximately 23 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, CH<sub>4</sub> is a much more potent GHG than CO<sub>2</sub>. Expressing emissions in CO<sub>2</sub>e takes the contributions of all GHG emissions to the greenhouse effect and converts them to a single unit equivalent to the effect that would occur if only CO<sub>2</sub> were being emitted.

Combustion of fossil fuel in the transportation sector was the single largest source of California's GHG emissions in 2002-2004, accounting for 38 percent of total GHG emissions in the state. This sector was followed by the electric power sector (including both in-state and out-of-state sources) (18 percent) and the industrial sector (21 percent).



### **California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections**

The 1990 GHG emissions limit is approximately 430 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e, which must be met in California by 2020 per the requirements of AB 32 (discussed below in the Regulatory Setting). ARB's GHG inventory for all emissions sectors would require an approximate 28 percent reduction in GHG emissions from projected 2020 forecasts to meet the target emissions limit (equivalent to levels in 1990) established in AB 32. The AB 32 Scoping Plan, discussed further below, is ARB's plan for meeting this mandate.

#### **C.1.4. Existing Ambient Air Quality: Odors and Dust**

Other air quality issues of concern in the SFBAAB include nuisance impacts of odors and dust. Objectionable odors may be associated with a variety of pollutants. Common sources of odors include wastewater treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities, refineries and chemical plants. Similarly, nuisance dust may be generated by a variety of sources including quarries, agriculture, grading and construction. Odors rarely have direct health impacts, but they can be very unpleasant and can lead to anger and concern over possible health effects among the public. Each year the BAAQMD receives thousands of citizen complaints about objectionable odors. Dust emissions can contribute to increased ambient concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub>, and can also contribute to reduced visibility and soiling of exposed surfaces.

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## **REGULATORY SETTING**

Air quality with respect to criteria air pollutants and TACs within the SFBAAB is regulated by such agencies as the BAAQMD, ARB, and EPA. Each of these agencies develops rules, regulations, policies, and/or goals to attain the goals or directives imposed through legislation. Although the EPA regulations may not be superseded, both state and local regulations may be more stringent.

#### **C.1.5. Criteria Air Pollutants**

##### **Federal Air Quality Regulations**

###### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

At the federal level, EPA has been charged with implementing national air quality programs. EPA's air quality mandates are drawn primarily from the Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA), which was enacted in 1963. The FCAA was amended in 1970, 1977, and 1990.

The FCAA required EPA to establish primary and secondary NAAQS, which are available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/aaqs2.pdf>. The FCAA also required each state to prepare an air quality control plan referred to as a State Implementation Plan (SIP). The Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (FCAAA) added requirements for states with nonattainment areas to revise their SIPs to incorporate additional control measures to reduce air pollution. The SIP is periodically modified to reflect the latest emissions inventories, planning documents, and rules and regulations of the air basins as reported by their jurisdictional agencies. EPA has responsibility to review all state SIPs to determine conformation to the mandates of the FCAAA and determine if implementation will achieve air quality goals. If the EPA determines a SIP to be inadequate, a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) may be prepared for the nonattainment area that imposes additional control measures. Failure to submit an approvable SIP or to implement the plan within the mandated timeframe may result in sanctions being applied to transportation funding and stationary air pollution sources in the air basin.

###### **State Air Quality Regulations**

In 1992 and 1993, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) requested delegation of authority for the implementation and enforcement of specified New Source Performance Standards



(NSPS) and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS) to the following local agencies: Bay Area and South Coast Air Quality Management Districts (AQMDs). EPA's review of the State of California's laws, rules, and regulations showed them to be adequate for the implementation and enforcement of these federal standards, and EPA granted the delegations as requested.

### **California Air Resources Board**

ARB is the agency responsible for coordination and oversight of state and local air pollution control programs in California and for implementing the California Clean Air Act (CCAA), which was adopted in 1988. The CCAA requires that all air districts in the state endeavor to achieve and maintain the CAAQS by the earliest practical date. The act specifies that districts should focus particular attention on reducing the emissions from transportation and area-wide emission sources, and provides districts with the authority to regulate indirect sources.

ARB is primarily responsible for developing and implementing air pollution control plans to achieve and maintain the NAAQS. The ARB is primarily responsible for statewide pollution sources and produces a major part of the SIP. Local air districts are still relied upon to provide additional strategies for sources under their jurisdiction. The ARB combines this data and submits the completed SIP to EPA.

Other ARB duties include monitoring air quality (in conjunction with air monitoring networks maintained by air pollution control and air quality management districts), establishing CAAQS (which in many cases are more stringent than the NAAQS), determining and updating area designations and maps, and setting emissions standards for new mobile sources, consumer products, small utility engines, and off-road vehicles.

### **Transport of Pollutants**

The California Clean Air Act, Section 39610 (a), directs the ARB to "identify each district in which transported air pollutants from upwind areas outside the district cause or contribute to a violation of the ozone standard and to identify the district of origin of transported pollutants." The information regarding the transport of air pollutants from one basin to another was to be quantified to assist interrelated basins in the preparation of plans for the attainment of State ambient air quality standards. Numerous studies conducted by the ARB have identified air basins that are impacted by pollutants transported from other air basins (as of 1993). Among the air basins affected by air pollution transport from the SFBAAB are the North Central Coast Air Basin, the Mountain Counties Air Basin, the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin, and the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. The SFBAAB was also identified as an area impacted by the transport of air pollutants from the Sacramento region.

### **Local Air Quality Regulations**

#### **Bay Area Air Quality Management District**

The BAAQMD attains and maintains air quality conditions in the SFBAAB through a comprehensive program of planning, regulation, enforcement, technical innovation, and promotion of the understanding of air quality issues. The clean air strategy of the BAAQMD includes the preparation of plans for the attainment of ambient air quality standards, adoption and enforcement of rules and regulations concerning sources of air pollution, and issuance of permits for stationary sources of air pollution. The BAAQMD also inspects stationary sources of air pollution and responds to citizen complaints, monitors ambient air quality and meteorological conditions, and implements programs and regulations required by the FCAA, FCAAA, and the CCAA.

In 2009, the BAAQMD released the update to its CEQA Guidelines. This is an advisory document that provides the lead agency, consultants, and project applicants with uniform procedures for



addressing air quality in environmental documents. The handbook contains the following applicable components:

1. Criteria and thresholds for determining whether a project may have a significant adverse air quality impact;
2. Specific procedures and modeling protocols for quantifying and analyzing air quality impacts;
3. Methods available to mitigate air quality impacts;
4. Information for use in air quality assessments and environmental documents that will be updated more frequently such as air quality data, regulatory setting, climate, topography.

### ***Air Quality Plans***

As stated above, the BAAQMD prepares plans to attain ambient air quality standards in the SFBAAB. The BAAQMD prepares ozone attainment plans (OAP) for the national ozone standard and clean air plans (CAP) for the California standard both in coordination with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).

With respect to applicable air quality plans, the BAAQMD prepared the *2010 Clean Air Plan* to address nonattainment of the national 1-hour ozone standard in the SFBAAB. The purpose of the 2010 Clean Air Plan is to:

1. Update the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the California Clean Air Act to implement “all feasible measures” to reduce ozone;
2. Consider the impacts of ozone control measures on particulate matter (PM), air toxics, and greenhouse gases in a single, integrated plan;
3. Review progress in improving air quality in recent years;
4. Establish emission control measures to be adopted or implemented in the 2009-2012 timeframe.

Similarly, the BAAQMD prepared the 2010 Clean Air Plan to address nonattainment of the CAAQS.

### **C.1.6. Toxic Air Contaminants**

TACs, or in federal parlance under the FCAA, HAPs, are pollutants that result in an increase in mortality, a serious illness, or pose a present or potential hazard to human health. Health effects of TACs may include cancer, birth defects, and immune system and neurological damage.

TACs can be separated into carcinogens and noncarcinogens based on the nature of the physiological degradation associated with exposure to the pollutant. For regulatory purposes, carcinogens are assumed to have no safe threshold below which health impacts will not occur. Noncarcinogenic TACs differ in that there is a safe level in which it is generally assumed that no negative health impacts would occur. These levels are determined on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis.

It is important to understand that TACs are not considered criteria air pollutants and thus are not specifically addressed through the setting of ambient air quality standards. Instead, the EPA and ARB regulate HAPs and TACs, respectively, through statutes and regulations that generally require the use of the maximum or best available control technology (MACT and BACT) to limit emissions. These in conjunction with additional rules set forth by the BAAQMD establish the regulatory framework for TACs.



### **Federal Hazardous Air Pollutant Program**

Title III of the FCAAA requires the EPA to promulgate national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAPs). The NESHAP may differ for major sources than for area sources of HAPs (major sources are defined as stationary sources with potential to emit more than 10 tons per year [TPY] of any HAP or more than 25 TPY of any combination of HAPs; all other sources are considered area sources). The emissions standards are to be promulgated in two phases. In the first phase (1992–2000), the EPA developed technology-based emission standards designed to produce the maximum emission reduction achievable. These standards are generally referred to as requiring MACT. These federal rules are also commonly referred to as MACT standards, because they reflect the Maximum Achievable Control Technology. For area sources, the standards may be different, based on generally available control technology. In the second phase (2001–2008), the EPA is required to promulgate health risk–based emissions standards where deemed necessary to address risks remaining after implementation of the technology-based NESHAP standards. The FCAAA required the EPA to promulgate vehicle or fuel standards containing reasonable requirements that control toxic emissions, at a minimum to benzene and formaldehyde. Performance criteria were established to limit mobile-source emissions of toxics, including benzene, formaldehyde, and 1,3-butadiene. In addition, §219 required the use of reformulated gasoline in selected U.S. cities (those with the most severe ozone nonattainment conditions) to further reduce mobile-source emissions.

### **State Toxic Air Contaminant Programs**

California regulates TACs primarily through the Tanner Air Toxics Act (AB 1807) and the Air Toxics Hot Spots Information and Assessment Act of 1987 (AB 2588). The Tanner Act sets forth a formal procedure for ARB to designate substances as TACs. This includes research, public participation, and scientific peer review before ARB can designate a substance as a TAC. To date, ARB has identified over 21 TACs, and adopted the EPA's list of HAPs as TACs. Most recently, diesel exhaust particulate was added to the ARB list of TACs. Once a TAC is identified, ARB's then adopts an Airborne Toxics Control Measure for sources that emit that particular TAC. If there is a safe threshold for a substance at which there is no toxic effect, the control measure must reduce exposure below that threshold. If there is no safe threshold, the measure must incorporate TBACT to minimize emissions. None of the TACs identified by ARB have a safe threshold.

The Hot Spots Act requires that existing facilities that emit toxic substances above specified level:

1. Prepare a toxic emission inventory;
2. Prepare a risk assessment if emissions are significant;
3. Notify the public of significant risk levels;
4. Prepare and implement risk reduction measure.

ARB has adopted diesel exhaust control measures and more stringent emission standards for various on-road mobile sources of emissions, including transit buses, and off-road diesel equipment (e.g., tractors, generators). In February 2000, ARB adopted a new public transit bus fleet rule and emission standards for new urban buses. These new rules and standards provide for 1) more stringent emission standards for some new urban bus engines beginning with 2002 model year engines, 2) zero-emission bus demonstration and purchase requirements applicable to transit agencies, and 3) reporting requirements with which transit agencies must demonstrate compliance with the urban transit bus fleet rule. Upcoming milestones include the low sulfur diesel fuel requirement, and tighter emission standards for heavy-duty diesel trucks (2007) and off-road diesel equipment (2011) nationwide. Over time, the replacement of older vehicles will result in a vehicle fleet that produces substantially less TACs than under current conditions. Mobile-source emissions of TACs (e.g., benzene, 1-3-butadiene, diesel PM) have been reduced



significantly over the last decade, and will be reduced further in California through a progression of regulatory measures [e.g., Low Emission Vehicle/Clean Fuels and Phase II reformulated gasoline regulations) and control technologies. With implementation of ARB's Risk Reduction Plan, it is expected that diesel PM concentrations will be reduced by 75% in 2010 and 85% in 2020 from the estimated year 2000 level. Adopted regulations are also expected to continue to reduce formaldehyde emissions from cars and light-duty trucks. As emissions are reduced, it is expected that risks associated with exposure to the emissions will also be reduced.

### **Local Air Quality Regulations**

#### **Bay Area Air Quality Management District**

The BAAQMD has regulated TACs since the 1980s. At the local level, air pollution control or management districts may adopt and enforce ARB's control measures. Under BAAQMD Regulation 2-1 (General Permit Requirements), Regulation 2-2 (New Source Review), and Regulation 2-5 (New Source Review), all nonexempt sources that possess the potential to emit TACs are required to obtain permits from BAAQMD. Permits may be granted to these operations if they are constructed and operated in accordance with applicable regulations, including new source review standards and air toxics control measures. The BAAQMD limits emissions and public exposure to TACs through a number of programs. The BAAQMD prioritizes TAC-emitting stationary sources based on the quantity and toxicity of the TAC emissions and the proximity of the facilities to sensitive receptors. In addition, the BAAQMD has adopted Regulation 11 Rules 2 and 14, which address asbestos demolition renovation, manufacturing, and standards for asbestos containing serpentine.

### **C.1.7. Greenhouse Gases and Global Climate Change**

#### **Federal Greenhouse Gas Regulations**

##### **Supreme Court Ruling**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the Federal agency responsible for implementing the Clean Air Act (CAA). The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its decision in *Massachusetts et al. v. Environmental Protection Agency et al.* ([2007] 549 U.S. 05-1120), issued on April 2, 2007, that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is an air pollutant as defined under the CAA, and that EPA has the authority to regulate emissions of GHGs.

##### **EPA Actions**

In response to the mounting issue of climate change, EPA has taken actions to regulate, monitor, and potentially reduce GHG emissions.

##### **Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule**

On September 22, 2009, EPA issued a final rule for mandatory reporting of GHGs from large GHG emissions sources in the United States. In general, this national reporting requirement will provide EPA with accurate and timely GHG emissions data from facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. This publically available data will allow the reporters to track their own emissions, compare them to similar facilities, and aid in identifying cost effective opportunities to reduce emissions in the future. Reporting is at the facility level, except that certain suppliers of fossil fuels and industrial greenhouse gases along with vehicle and engine manufacturers will report at the corporate level. An estimated 85% of the total U.S. GHG emissions, from approximately 10,000 facilities, are covered by this final rule.



### **Proposed Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under the Clean Air Act**

On April 23, 2009, EPA published their Proposed Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under the CCA (Endangerment Finding) in the Federal Register. The Endangerment Finding is based on Section 202(a) of the CAA, which states that the Administrator (of EPA) should regulate and develop standards for “emission[s] of air pollution from any class of classes of new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, which in [its] judgment cause, or contribute to, air pollution which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare.” The proposed rule addresses Section 202(a) in two distinct findings. The first addresses whether or not the concentrations of the six key GHGs (i.e., carbon dioxide [CO<sub>2</sub>], methane [CH<sub>4</sub>], nitrous oxide [N<sub>2</sub>O], hydrofluorocarbons [HFCs], perfluorocarbons [PFCs], and sulfur hexafluoride [SF<sub>6</sub>]) in the atmosphere threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations. The second addresses whether or not the combined emissions of GHGs from new motor vehicles and motor vehicle engines contribute to atmospheric concentrations of GHGs and to the threat of climate change.

The Administrator proposed the finding that atmospheric concentrations of GHGs endanger the public health and welfare within the meaning of Section 202(a) of the CCA. The evidence supporting this finding consists of human activity resulting in “high atmospheric levels” of GHG emissions, which are very likely responsible for increases in average temperatures and other climatic changes. Furthermore, the observed and projected results of climate change (e.g., higher likelihood of heat waves, wild fires, droughts, sea level rise, higher intensity storms) are a threat to the public health and welfare. Therefore, GHGs were found to endanger the public health and welfare of current and future generations.

The Administrator also proposed the finding that GHG emissions from new motor vehicles and motor vehicle engines are contributing to air pollution, which is endangering public health and welfare. The proposed finding cites that in 2006, motor vehicles were the second largest contributor to domestic GHG emissions (24 percent of total) behind electricity generation. Furthermore, in 2005, the U.S. was responsible for 18 percent of global GHG emissions. Therefore, GHG emissions from motor vehicles and motor vehicle engines were found to contribute to air pollution that endangers public health and welfare.

### **State Greenhouse Gas Regulations**

#### **Assembly Bill 1493 (2002)**

In 2002, then-Governor Gray Davis signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1493. AB 1493 requires that ARB develop and adopt, by January 1, 2005, regulations that achieve “the maximum feasible reduction of greenhouse gases emitted by passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks and other vehicles determined by ARB to be vehicles whose primary use is noncommercial personal transportation in the state.”

To meet the requirements of AB 1493, in 2004 ARB approved amendments to the California Code of Regulations (CCR) adding GHG emissions standards to California’s existing standards for motor vehicle emissions. Amendments to CCR Title 13, Sections 1900 and 1961 (13 CCR 1900, 1961), and adoption of Section 1961.1 (13 CCR 1961.1) require automobile manufacturers to meet fleet-average GHG emissions limits for all passenger cars, light-duty trucks within various weight criteria, and medium-duty passenger vehicle weight classes (i.e., any medium-duty vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating less than 10,000 pounds that is designed primarily for the transportation of persons), beginning with the 2009 model year. For passenger cars and light-duty trucks with a loaded vehicle weight (LVW) of 3,750 pounds or less, the GHG emission limits for the 2016 model year are approximately 37percent lower than the limits for the first year of the regulations, the 2009 model year. For light-duty trucks with LVW of 3,751 pounds to gross vehicle



weight (GVW) of 8,500 pounds, as well as medium-duty passenger vehicles, GHG emissions would be reduced approximately 24 percent between 2009 and 2016.

In December 2004, a group of car dealerships, automobile manufacturers, and trade groups representing automobile manufacturers filed suit against ARB to prevent enforcement of 13 CCR Sections 1900 and 1961 as amended by AB 1493 and 13 CCR 1961.1 (*Central Valley Chrysler-Jeep et al. v. Catherine E. Witherspoon, in Her Official Capacity as Executive Director of the California Air Resources Board, et al.*). The auto-makers' suit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, contended California's implementation of regulations that, in effect, regulate vehicle fuel economy violates various federal laws, regulations, and policies.

On December 12, 2007, the Court found that if California receives appropriate authorization from EPA (the last remaining factor in enforcing the standard), these regulations would be consistent with and have the force of federal law, thus, rejecting the automakers' claim. This authorization to implement more stringent standards in California was requested in the form of a CAA Section 209, subsection (b) waiver in 2005. Since that time, EPA failed to act on granting California authorization to implement the standards. Governor Schwarzenegger and Attorney General Edmund G. Brown filed suit against EPA for the delay. In December 2007, EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson denied California's request for the waiver to implement AB 1493. Johnson cited the need for a national approach to reducing GHG emissions, the lack of a "need to meet compelling and extraordinary conditions", and the emissions reductions that would be achieved through the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 as the reasoning for the denial.

The state of California filed suit against EPA for its decision to deny the CAA waiver. The recent change in presidential administration directed EPA to reexamine its position for denial of California's CAA waiver and for its past opposition to GHG emissions regulation. California received the waiver, notwithstanding the previous denial by EPA, on June 30, 2009.

#### **Assembly Bill 32 (2006), California Global Warming Solutions Act**

In September 2006, the governor of California signed AB 32 (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which enacted Sections 38500–38599 of the California Health and Safety Code. AB 32 requires the reduction of statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. This equates to an approximate 15 percent reduction compared to existing statewide GHG emission levels or a 30 percent reduction from projected 2020 "business as usual" emission levels. The required reduction will be accomplished through an enforceable statewide cap on GHG emissions beginning in 2012.

To effectively implement the statewide cap on GHG emissions, AB 32 directs ARB to develop and implement regulations that reduce statewide GHG emissions generated by stationary sources. Specific actions required of ARB under AB 32 include adoption of a quantified cap on GHG emissions that represent 1990 emissions levels along with disclosing how the cap was quantified, institution of a schedule to meet the emissions cap, and development of tracking, reporting, and enforcement mechanisms to ensure that the state achieves the reductions in GHG emissions needed to meet the cap.

In addition, AB 32 states that if any regulations established under AB 1493 (2002) cannot be implemented then ARB is required to develop additional, new regulations to control GHG emissions from vehicles as part of AB 32.

#### **AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan**

In December 2008, ARB adopted its *Climate Change Scoping Plan*, which contains the main strategies California will implement to achieve reduction of approximately 169 million metric tons (MMT) of CO<sub>2</sub>e, or approximately 30% from the state's projected 2020 emission level of 596 MMT of CO<sub>2</sub>e under a business-as-usual scenario (this is a reduction of 42 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e, or almost 10%,



from 2002-2004 average emissions). The *Scoping Plan* also includes ARB-recommended GHG reductions for each emissions sector of the state's GHG inventory. The *Scoping Plan* calls for the largest reductions in GHG emissions to be achieved by implementing the following measures and standards:

- improved emissions standards for light-duty vehicles (estimated reductions of 31.7 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e);
- the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (15.0 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e);
- energy efficiency measures in buildings and appliances and the widespread development of combined heat and power systems (26.3 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e); and
- a renewable portfolio standard for electricity production (21.3 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e).

ARB has not yet determined what amount of GHG reductions it recommends from local government operations; however, the *Scoping Plan* does state that land use planning and urban growth decisions will play an important role in the state's GHG reductions because local governments have primary authority to plan, zone, approve, and permit how land is developed to accommodate population growth and the changing needs of their jurisdictions( meanwhile, ARB is also developing an additional protocol for community emissions). ARB further acknowledges that decisions on how land is used will have large impacts on the GHG emissions that will result from the transportation, housing, industry, forestry, water, agriculture, electricity, and natural gas emission sectors. The *Scoping Plan* states that the ultimate GHG reduction assignment to local government operations is to be determined (ARB 2008). With regard to land use planning, the *Scoping Plan* expects approximately 5.0 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e will be achieved associated with implementation of SB 375, which is discussed further below.

#### **Senate Bills 1078 and 107 and Executive Order S-14-08**

SB 1078 (Chapter 516, Statutes of 2002) requires retail sellers of electricity, including investor-owned utilities and community choice aggregators, to provide at least 20 percent of their supply from renewable sources by 2017. SB 107 (Chapter 464, Statutes of 2006) changed the target date to 2010. In November 2008 Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-14-08, which expands the state's Renewable Energy Standard to 33 percent renewable power by 2020. Governor Schwarzenegger plans to propose legislative language that will codify the new higher standard.

#### **Senate Bill 1368 (2006)**

SB 1368 is the companion bill of AB 32 and was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in September 2006. SB 1368 requires the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish a greenhouse gas emission performance standard for baseload generation from investor owned utilities by February 1, 2007. The California Energy Commission (CEC) must establish a similar standard for local publicly owned utilities by June 30, 2007. These standards cannot exceed the greenhouse gas emission rate from a baseload combined-cycle natural gas fired plant. The legislation further requires that all electricity provided to California, including imported electricity, must be generated from plants that meet the standards set by the PUC and CEC.

#### **Senate Bill 97 (2007)**

SB 97, signed by governor of California in August 2007 (Chapter 185, Statutes of 2007; Public Resources Code, Sections 21083.05 and 21097), acknowledges climate change is a prominent environmental issue that requires analysis under CEQA. This bill directed the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to prepare, develop, and transmit to the California Resources Agency by July 1, 2009 guidelines for mitigating GHG emissions or the effects of GHG emissions,



as required by CEQA. The California Resources Agency is required to certify and adopt these guidelines by January 1, 2010.

This bill also removes, both retroactively and prospectively, as legitimate causes of action in litigation any claim of inadequate CEQA analysis of effects of GHG emissions associated with environmental review for projects funded by the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1B) or the Disaster Preparedness and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1E). This provision will be repealed by provision of law on January 1, 2010 at that time such projects, if any remain unapproved, will no longer enjoy protection against litigation claims based on failure to adequately address issues related to GHG emissions.

**Senate Bill 375 (2008)**

SB 375, signed in September 2008, aligns regional transportation planning efforts, regional GHG reduction targets, and land use and housing allocation. As part of the alignment, SB 375 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to adopt a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) which prescribes land use allocation in that MPO's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The ARB, in consultation with MPOs, is required to provide each affected region with reduction targets for GHGs emitted by passenger cars and light trucks in the region for the years 2020 and 2035. These reduction targets will be updated every 8 years but can be updated every 4 years if advancements in emissions technologies affect the reduction strategies to achieve the targets. The ARB is also charged with reviewing each MPO's SCS or APS for consistency with its assigned GHG emission reduction targets. If MPOs do not meet the GHG reduction targets, transportation projects located in the MPO boundaries would not be eligible for funding programmed after January 1, 2012.

This bill also extends the minimum time period for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RNHA) cycle from 5 years to 8 years for local governments located in an MPO that meets certain requirements. City or County land use policies (e.g., General Plans) are not required to be consistent with the RTP including associated SCSs or APSs. Projects consistent with an approved SCS or APS and categorized as "transit priority projects" would receive incentives under new provisions of CEQA.

**Executive Order S-3-05 (2005)**

Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-3-05 on June 1, 2005 which proclaimed California is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The executive order declared increased temperatures could reduce snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, further exacerbate California's air quality problems, and potentially cause a rise in sea levels. To combat those concerns, the executive order established targets for total GHG emissions which include reducing GHG emissions to the 2000 level by 2010, to the 1990 level by 2020, and to 80 percent below the 1990 level by 2050.

The executive order also directed the secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate a multiagency effort to reduce GHG emissions to the target levels. The secretary will submit biannual reports to the governor and legislature describing progress made toward reaching the emission targets; impacts of global warming on California's resources; and mitigation and adaptation plans to combat impacts of global warming.

To comply with the executive order, the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency created the California Climate Action Team which is made up of members from various state agencies and commissions. The California Climate Action Team released its first report in March 2006 of which proposed achieving the GHG emissions targets by building on voluntary



actions of California businesses and actions by local governments and communities along with continued implementation of state incentive and regulatory programs.

#### **Executive Order S-13-08**

Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-13-08 on November 14, 2008 which directs California to develop methods for adapting to climate change through preparation of a statewide plan. The executive order directs OPR, in cooperation with the California Resources Agency (CRA), to provide land use planning guidance related to sea level rise and other climate change impacts by May 30, 2009. The order also directs the CRA to develop a state Climate Adaptation Strategy by June 30, 2009 and to convene an independent panel to complete the first California Sea Level Rise Assessment Report. The assessment report is required to be completed by December 1, 2010 and required to include the following four items:

1. Project the relative sea level rise specific to California by taking into account issues such as coastal erosion rates, tidal impacts, El Niño and La Niña events, storm surge, and land subsidence rates;
2. Identify the range of uncertainty in selected sea level rise projections;
3. Synthesize existing information on projected sea level rise impacts to state infrastructure (e.g., roads, public facilities, beaches), natural areas, and coastal and marine ecosystems; and
4. Discuss future research needs relating to sea level rise in California.

#### **Executive Order S-1-07**

Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-1-07 in 2007 which proclaimed the transportation sector as the main source of GHG emissions in California. The executive order proclaims the transportation sector accounts for over 40 percent of statewide GHG emissions. The executive order also establishes a goal to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels sold in California by a minimum of 10 percent by 2020.

In particular, the executive order established a Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) and directed the Secretary for Environmental Protection to coordinate the actions of the CEC, the ARB, the University of California, and other agencies to develop and propose protocols for measuring the “life-cycle carbon intensity” of transportation fuels. This analysis supporting development of the protocols was included in the State Implementation Plan for alternative fuels (*State Alternative Fuels Plan* adopted by CEC on December 24, 2007) and was submitted to ARB for consideration as an “early action” item under AB 32. The ARB adopted the LCFS on April 23, 2009.

#### **Local Greenhouse Gas Regulations**

##### **Bay Area Air Quality Management District Climate Protection Program**

The BAAQMD established a climate protection program to reduce pollutants that contribute to global climate change and affect air quality in the SFBAAB. The climate protection program includes measures that promote energy efficiency, reduce vehicle miles traveled, and develop alternative sources of energy all of which assist in reducing emissions of GHG and in reducing air pollutants that affect the health of residents. BAAQMD also seeks to support current climate protection programs in the region and to stimulate additional efforts through public education and outreach, technical assistance to local governments and other interested parties, and promotion of collaborative efforts among stakeholders.







## D. GLOSSARY

**Aerosol** -- Particle of solid or liquid matter that can remain suspended in the air because of its small size (generally under one micrometer in diameter).

**Air Quality Management District (AQMD)** -- Local agency charged with controlling air pollution and attaining air quality standards. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional AQMD that includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties and the southern halves of Solano and Sonoma Counties.

**Air Resources Board (ARB)** -- The State of California agency responsible for air pollution control. Responsibilities include: establishing State ambient air quality standards, setting allowable emission levels for motor vehicles in California and oversight of local air quality management districts.

**Area Sources** -- Sources of air pollutants that individually emit relatively small quantities of air pollutants, but that may emit considerable quantities of emissions when aggregated over a large area. Examples include water heaters, lawn maintenance equipment, and consumer products.

**Best Available Control Technology (BACT)** -- The most stringent emissions control that has been achieved in practice, identified in a state implementation plan, or found by the District to be technologically feasible and cost-effective for a given class of sources.

**California Clean Air Act (CCAA)** -- Legislation enacted in 1988 mandating a planning process to attain state ambient air quality standards.

**CALINE** -- A model developed by the Air Resources Board that calculates carbon monoxide concentrations resulting from motor vehicle use.

**Carbon Monoxide (CO)** -- A colorless, odorless, toxic gas produced by the incomplete combustion of carbon-containing substances. It is emitted in large quantities by exhaust of gasoline-powered vehicles.

**Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)** -- A colorless, odorless gas that is an important contributor to Earth's greenhouse effect.

**Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>E)** -- A metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential.

**Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)** -- A family of inert, nontoxic, and easily liquefied chemicals used in refrigeration, air conditioning, packaging, insulation, or as solvents and aerosol propellants. CFCs drift into the upper atmosphere where their chlorine components destroy stratospheric ozone.

**Clean Air Act (CAA)** -- Long-standing federal legislation, last amended in 1990, that is the legal basis for the national clean air programs.

**Conformity** -- A requirement in federal law and administrative practice that requires that projects will not be approved if they do not conform with the State Implementation Plan by: causing or contributing to an increase in air pollutant emissions, violating an air pollutant standard, or increasing the frequency of violations of an air pollutant standard.

**Criteria Air Pollutants** -- Air pollutants for which the federal or State government has established ambient air quality standards, or criteria, for outdoor concentration in order to protect public



health. Criteria pollutants include: ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide PM10 (previously total suspended particulate), nitrogen oxide, and lead.

EMFAC -- The computer model developed by the California Air Resources Board to estimate composite on-road motor vehicle emission factors by vehicle class.

Emission Factor -- The amount of a specific pollutant emitted from a specified polluting source per unit quantity of material handled, processed, or burned.

Emission Inventory -- A list of air pollutants emitted over a determined area by type of source. Typically expressed in mass per unit time.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) -- The federal agency responsible for control of air and water pollution, toxic substances, solid waste, and cleanup of contaminated sites.

Exceedance -- A monitored level of concentration of any air contaminant higher than national or state ambient air quality standards.

Global Warming Potential (GWP) -- The index used to translate the level of emissions of various gases into a common measure in order to compare the relative radiative forcing of different gases without directly calculating the changes in atmospheric concentrations. GWPs are calculated as the ratio of the radiative forcing that would result from the emissions of one kilogram of a greenhouse gas to that from emission of one kilogram of carbon dioxide over a period of time (usually 100 years).

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) -- Any gas that absorbs infrared radiation in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), halogenated fluorocarbons (HCFCs), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

Hazardous Air Pollutants -- Federal terminology for air pollutants which are not covered by ambient air quality standards but may reasonably be expected to cause or contribute to serious illness or death (see NESHAPs).

Health Risk Assessment -- An analysis where human exposure to toxic substances is estimated, and considered together with information regarding the toxic potency of the substances, to provide quantitative estimates of health risk.

Hot Spot -- A location where emissions from specific sources may expose individuals and population groups to elevated risks of adverse health effects and contribute to the cumulative health risks of emissions from other sources in the area.

Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) -- A gas characterized by "rotten egg" smell, found in the vicinity of oil refineries, chemical plants and sewage treatment plants.

Impacted Communities -- Also known as priority communities, the Air District defines impacted communities within the Bay Area as having higher emitting sources, highest air concentrations, and nearby low income and sensitive populations. The Air District identified the following impacted communities: the urban core areas of Concord, eastern San Francisco, western Alameda County, Redwood City/East Palo Alto, Richmond/San Pablo, and San Jose.

Indirect Sources -- Land uses and facilities that attract or generate motor vehicle trips and thus result in air pollutant emissions, e.g., shopping centers, office buildings, and airports.



**Inversion** -- The phenomenon of a layer of warm air over cooler air below. This atmospheric condition resists the natural dispersion and dilution of air pollutants.

**Level of Service (LOS)** -- A transportation planning term for a method of measurement of traffic congestion. The LOS compares actual or projected traffic volume to the maximum capacity of the road under study. LOS ranges from A through F. LOS A describes free flow conditions, while LOS F describes the most congested conditions, up to or over the maximum capacity for which the road was designed.

**Mobile Source** -- Any motor vehicle that produces air pollution, e.g., cars, trucks, motorcycles (on-road mobile sources) or airplanes, trains and construction equipment (off-road mobile sources).

**National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)** -- Health-based pollutant concentration limits established by EPA that apply to outdoor air (see Criteria Air Pollutants).

**National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs)** -- Emissions standards set by EPA for air pollutants not covered by NAAQS that may cause an increase in deaths or in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating illness.

**Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)** -- Gases formed in great part from atmospheric nitrogen and oxygen when combustion takes place under conditions of high temperature and high pressure; NO<sub>x</sub> is a precursor to the criteria air pollutant ozone.

**Nonattainment Area** -- Defined geographic area that does not meet one or more of the

Ambient Air Quality Standards for the criteria pollutants designated in the federal Clean Air Act and/or California Clean Air Act.

**Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)** -- A pungent, colorless, toxic gas. A product of complex photochemical processes, usually in the presence of sunlight. Tropospheric (lower atmosphere) ozone is a criteria air pollutant.

**Particulate** -- A particle of solid or liquid matter; soot, dust, aerosols, fumes and mists.

**Photochemical Process** -- The chemical changes brought about by the radiant energy of the sun acting upon various polluting substances. The products are known as photochemical smog.

**PM<sub>2.5</sub>** -- Fine particulate matter (solid or liquid) with an aerodynamic diameter equal to or less than 2.5 micrometers. Individual particles of this size are small enough to be inhaled deeply into the lungs..

**PM<sub>10</sub>** -- Fine particulate matter (solid or liquid) with an aerodynamic diameter equal to or less than 10 micrometers. Individual particles of this size are small enough to be inhaled into human lungs; they are not visible to the human eye.

**Precursor** -- Compounds that change chemically or physically after being emitted into the air and eventually produce air pollutants. For example, organic compounds are precursors to ozone.

**Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD)** -- EPA program in which State and/or federal permits are required that are intended to restrict emissions for new or modified sources in places where air quality is already better than required to meet primary and secondary ambient air quality standards.



**Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)** -- Classes of organic compounds, especially olefins, substituted aromatics and aldehydes, that react rapidly in the atmosphere to form photochemical smog or ozone.

**Sensitive Receptors** -- Facilities or land uses that include members of the population that are particularly sensitive to the effects of air pollutants, such as children, the elderly, and people with illnesses. Examples include schools, hospitals and residential areas.

**State Implementation Plan (SIP)** -- EPA-approved state plans for attaining and maintaining federal air quality standards.

**Stationary Source** -- A fixed, non-mobile source of air pollution, usually found at industrial or commercial facilities.

**Sulfur Oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>)** -- Pungent, colorless gases formed primarily by the combustion of sulfur-containing fossil fuels, especially coal and oil. Considered a criteria air pollutant, sulfur oxides may damage the respiratory tract as well as vegetation.

**Toxic Air Contaminants** -- Air pollutants which cause illness or death in relatively small quantities. Non-criteria air contaminants that, upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into organisms either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, may cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, or physical deformations in such organisms or their offspring.

**Transportation Control Measures (TCMs)** -- Measures to reduce traffic congestion and decrease emissions from motor vehicles by reducing vehicle use.

**URBEMIS** -- A computer model developed by the California Air Resources Board to estimate air pollutant emissions from motor vehicle trips associated with land use development.