

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 27, 2007  
MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Vander-Pluym convened the meeting at approximately 7:35 p.m.

I. Director's Report

Mike Villegas, Air Pollution Control Officer, stated 2007 has been the cleanest year for air quality on record for Ventura County. There were only six days exceeding the existing federal eight-hour ozone standard.

Mr. Villegas stated the District Board had approved the District's Climate Change Action Plan on October 9, 2007. The plan includes public outreach; assisting with the implementation of California's Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32); updating the District's Legislative Platform to address climate change; supporting green fleets via District incentive programs; preparing a report on tree planting; and preparing an estimate of energy use in Ventura County.

Mr. Villegas noted that the District had shown a small increase in the fund balance during Fiscal Year 2006-07. This was a major change from the prior fiscal year when the district was facing a significant budget shortfall.

Mr. Villegas noted the January meeting would be on the fifth Tuesday of the month (January 29, 2008), due to room availability.

II. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Pluym called the meeting to order at approximately 7:40 p.m.

III. Roll Call

Present

Scott Blough  
Sara Head  
Karl Krause  
Keith Moore  
Greg Patterson  
Duane Vander Pluym

Stephen Garfield  
Ryan Kinsella  
Hugh McTernan  
Michael Moore  
Ron Peterson

Absent

Manuel Ceja (excused)  
Aaron Hanson

Stan Greene (excused)  
Hector Irigoyen

Michael Kuhn (excused)  
Gayle Washburn (excused)

Marilyn Miravete-Smith (excused)

Staff

Mike Villegas

Stan Cowen

Public

Emilio Cervantes  
Rob Roy  
Carol Worsham  
Scott Cohen  
Erin Powers  
George Huggins

Newhall Land & Farming  
VCAA  
Worsham Ranch  
West Coast Environmental  
Department of Airports  
Self

IV. Minutes

The minutes of the July 24, 2007, meeting were approved as drafted.

V. Committee Comment

There was no Committee comment.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

A. Proposed New Rule 55, Fugitive Dust

Stan Cowen, of District Staff, gave an overview of proposed new Rule 55, Fugitive Dust. The rule is needed to satisfy the mandate of SB 656, which requires the District to adopt regulations to reduce emissions of particulate matter. The proposed rule utilizes a standards based approach rather than prescribed requirements. Conditional exemptions allow sources to avoid rule violations by taking proactive measures to reduce emissions. However, the proposed rule does contain prescribed requirements for bulk material handling facilities.

The fugitive dust standards include: 1) no visible dust beyond the property line; 2) a 20 percent opacity standard; 3) a track-out limit of 25 feet; and 4) no visible dust plume over 100 feet during earthmoving operations. Conditional exemptions can

be applicable to the standards with the exception of the 100 foot plume for earthmoving operations.

Committee member Keith Moore asked how proposed Rule 55 and the estimated emission reduction of six tons per day would impact attainment of the California particulate matter air quality standard. Staff replied Rule 55 was just one component of efforts to attain the standard and regulation of these types of sources was mandated by state law.

Committee members Head and Krause expressed concern about the definition of frequently traveled unpaved road and potential compliance costs. After discussion, the Committee requested staff to develop a solution that would not require the County of Ventura to undertake costly measures to comply with requirements for unpaved roads. The Committee also requested the six vehicle per hour limit for lightly traveled roads be replaced with a 20 vehicle per day limit.

Carol Worshum, of Worshum ranch, stated that avocado operations would not have a problem with the track out requirements and the rule looked good.

Rob Roy, of the Ventura County Agricultural Alliance, requested the word “seeding” be added to Subsection H.10.d. Staff and the Committee concurred. Mr. Roy noted the track out requirements may need to be revisited for row crop operations.

The Committee also directed staff to remove the conditional exemption from Subsection B.1 (Visible Dust Beyond the Property Line). Scott Cohen, of West Coast Environmental, requested that the no visible dust requirement be replaced with an opacity standard. The Committee also discussed the possibility of a no visible dust standard 50 or 100 feet beyond the property line.

Vice-Chairman Vander Pluym and Committee member Michael Moore asked how the 25 foot track out limit would be interpreted for areas with multiple egress points. Staff agreed to review this issue.

Committee member Kinsella expressed concern regarding allowing an exemption from the requirements via the 25 mile per hour high wind exemption. Scott Cohen expressed his concern with the potential removal of the high wind exemption. The Committee suggested that staff base the high wind exemption on sustained winds greater than 25 miles per hour for five minutes in an hour. Staff was directed to establish a list of best management practices that would need to be implemented as part of the high wind exemption.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mike Villegas  
Air Pollution Control District Staff