

# SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

For Agenda of: March 25, 2004

To: Board of Directors  
Sacramento Metropolitan Air quality Management District

From: Norm Covell  
Air Pollution Control Officer

Subject: **Northern California Air Quality Coordinating Group**

## **Recommendation:**

That your Board consider appointing a second member to this committee.

## **Background:**

This is a group of elected officials and high level staff interacting with California Air Resources Board (CARB) members regarding air pollution transport into the Valley. The third meeting of this group was held on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Elected representatives were present from the Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, Yolo/Solano Air Districts and the CARB. Karen Wilson, Brigette Tollstrup and I represented Sacramento, for a total of about 30 participants.

## **Issues of Discussion**

- We worked through the issue of the use of Phase II of the Prop 40 money. Earlier the Bay Area had made a run on this money recommending to CARB that it be divided based on population. Sacramento could have lost over \$800,000 of our \$2 million to the Bay Area. Fortunately we have been able to work out a proposal where the formula will not change; however, districts involved in transport issues will set aside 20% of their allocation to implement projects that mutually benefit both air basins.
- We are working together to evaluate control measures to assist CARB in their determination as to whether all feasible measures are, in fact, being implemented in upwind and downwind areas.
- Our state association, CAPCOA, has developed a transport protocol which was unveiled at the last meeting. It is an attempt to resolve transport issues at the district level prior to CARB getting involved.

**Issues Yet to be Resolved**

We need to bring resolution to issues such as the Bay Area's fair share contribution of transported emissions; the type of instrument to be put in place that will guarantee that future commitments are met; and defining mechanisms to encourage future efforts that consolidate our energies for mutual benefit.

**Conclusion**

It is critical that the Sacramento District be represented at these meetings with an elected Board member. The absence of such is sending a message that Sacramento is not concerned about the transport issue. Each of the other governmental entities has been represented by two or more electeds at each meeting. We need to have assurance of representation during those times when Supervisor Dickinson is unable to attend.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am to noon at CARB.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Covell  
Air Pollution Control Officer