

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 2013 - 11

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Resolution Adopting a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal and Commitment to Develop a Regional Climate Protection Strategy

WHEREAS, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated in its recently released 5th Assessment Report, *Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis*, that “Warming of the climate system is unequivocal,” and “It is *extremely likely* that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century”; and,

WHEREAS, Conservative estimates by the world’s climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change, emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be brought to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, The Bay Area Air Quality Management District launched a Climate Protection Program in 2005, and through this program works with the State of California, regional agencies, and city and county governments throughout the Bay Area region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, thus providing a national model for climate leadership; and

WHEREAS, The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 commits the State of California to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and the Governor’s Executive Order S-3-05 establishes as State policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and,

WHEREAS, The Air District's 2010 Clean Air Plan set performance objectives to “Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to 1990 levels by 2020 and 40% below 1990 levels by 2035”; and

WHEREAS, The Air District has invested in the development of local climate action plans throughout the Bay Area through its Climate Protection Grant Program, and nearly 50 Bay Area local governments have developed and adopted climate action plans; and

WHEREAS, The counties of Alameda and San Francisco have adopted goals of reducing GHG emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050, and many other jurisdictions, including Contra Costa County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, and the cities of Berkeley, Burlingame, Daly City, Hayward, Millbrae, San Jose, San Mateo and San Rafael, have adopted goals of reducing GHG emissions 80% below 2005 levels by 2050, through their adoption of the Sierra Club Cool Cities and Cool Counties resolutions; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that the increased temperatures and extreme weather events that are anticipated to be caused by climate change will likely create a number of health threats; and

WHEREAS, The CDC states that “heat exposure has a range of health effects,” including “increasing ground level ozone concentrations, causing direct lung injury and increasing the severity of respiratory diseases such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,” and states that “higher temperatures and heat waves increase demand for electricity and thus combustion of fossil fuels, generating airborne particulates and indirectly leading to increased respiratory disease;” and

WHEREAS, The CDC states that “increased concentrations of ground-level carbon dioxide and longer growing seasons could result in higher pollen production, worsening allergic and respiratory disease;” and

WHEREAS, Climate change may increase the occurrence and severity of wildfires in and around the Bay Area, resulting in increased PM2.5 exposure and associated negative health impacts, including respiratory and cardiovascular effects; and

WHEREAS, Measures to reduce Bay Area GHG emissions often would also result in reductions in emissions of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants and support the goals of the Air District’s *2010 Clean Air Plan*; and

WHEREAS, Reducing greenhouse gas emissions can achieve co-benefits for disproportionately impacted communities by reducing exposure to particulate matter and air toxic pollutants and thereby reducing the negative health impacts in those communities; and

WHEREAS, Greenhouse gas reduction policies that achieve energy and resource savings can yield economic co-benefits to residents and businesses within the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, Regional Agencies in the Bay Area are actively engaged in climate action planning, through efforts such as *Plan Bay Area*, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission’s *Adapting to Rising Tides Project*, and the Air District’s development of the *2014 Clean Air Plan*, and are coordinating these planning efforts through the Joint Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to California Clean Air Act and Amendments (HSC Sections 39002 and 40910 et seq) and the Federal Clean Air Act and Amendments (42 U.S.C. Section 7401 et seq.), the Air District has authority to regulate emissions from non-vehicular sources of air pollution, including GHGs, and to enact more stringent requirements than federal or State law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Directors seeks to build on local, regional and state climate protection planning efforts by leading a regional climate protection planning process to include:

- Setting a goal for the Bay Area region of reducing GHG emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050, and developing specific performance objectives to track progress in achieving the goal; and
- Developing a Regional Climate Action Strategy to guide and document the Air District's work towards achieving the 2050 goal for GHG emission reductions that complements existing planning efforts at the state, regional and local levels, utilizing the Air District's 2014 Clean Air Plan to coordinate the planning and outreach processes; and
- Directing staff to develop a work program to guide and document the Air District's climate protection activities in the near term, to be approved by the Board of Directors in the first quarter of 2014.

The foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on the Motion of Director AVALOS, seconded by Director ADAMS, on the 6th day of NOVEMBER, 2013, by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: ADAM, AVALOS, BARRETT, CHAVEZ, GIOIA, GROOM, HAGGERTY, HUDSON, KIM, KLATT, MAR, MILEY, PEPPER, PIEPHO, ROSS, SPERING, WAGENKNECHT, ZANE, KALRA

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: BATES, KNISS, SBRANTI

ABSTAIN: NONE



Ash Kalra
Chairperson of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Carole Groom
Secretary of the Board of Directors