



CEQA Guidelines Implementation Update

**Public Workshops
February 22, 23, & March 3, 2010**

**Sigalle Michael
Senior Environmental Planner, BAAQMD**

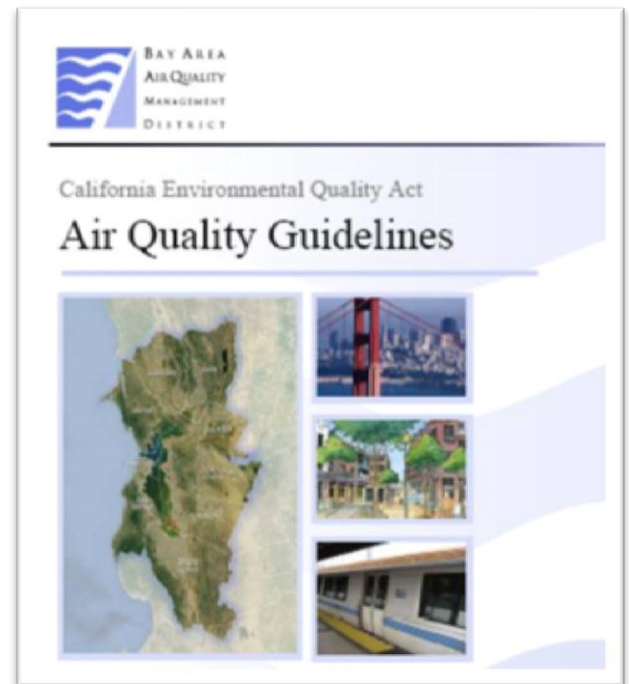


Agenda

- Update on Risk & Hazard threshold
- Update on GHG threshold
- Regional Agency Collaboration
- Questions

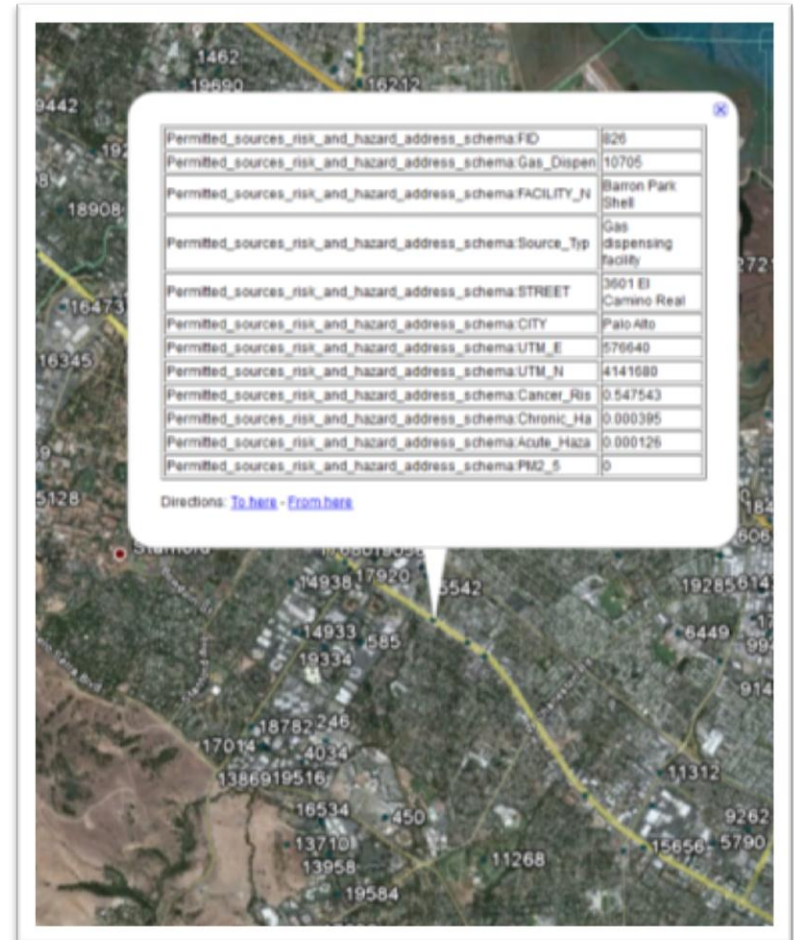
Since June 2010

- CEQA thresholds adopted in June 2010
- Local governments are applying thresholds
- Continuing to enhance and provide resources and tools for applying thresholds
- Working with local planners and stakeholders to address questions and issues



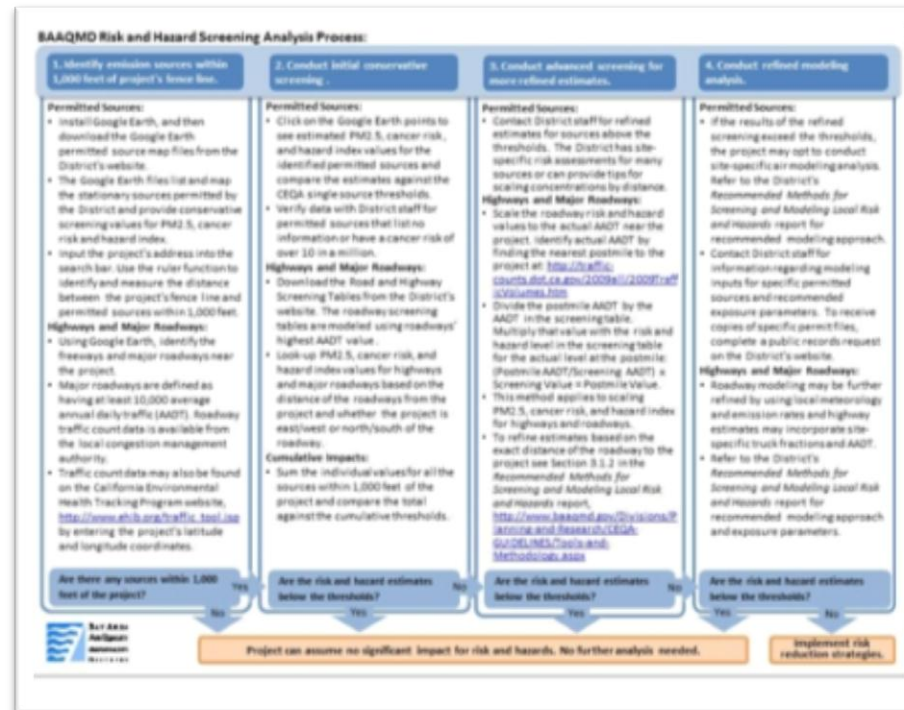
Risk & Hazard Update

- May 1, 2011 set as effective date for risk & hazards threshold for new receptors
- Roadway and stationary source screening tables updated since June 2010
 - Further refinement with local data in progress
- Construction Risk Calculator under development



Risk & Hazard Screening Process

- New flow-chart outlines steps to risk & hazard screening analysis process
- Describes conservative nature of screening tables
- Outlines guidance on refining impact analysis from sources and roadways
- District staff providing technical assistance as needed





Addressing Issues Heard to Date

- Screening tables are overly conservative
- Risk & hazard process could deter infill/affordable housing
- Challenging for construction projects to meet threshold
- Consider best management practices for construction emissions
- Need more useful construction screening process
- Need quantified mitigation measures to reduce impacts



Integrating Risk & Hazards with Local Planning

- Community Risk Reduction Plan
 - Pilot projects underway in San Jose and SF
 - \$50,000 to SJ and SF to support local staff
 - District assisting with workplan, emissions inventories, modeling, outreach
 - Addressing challenges in identifying geographic boundaries, risk reduction targets, mitigation measures
 - Other cities committing to develop CRRP – Santa Clara, San Pablo, Walnut Creek
- Community Development Guidelines
 - Simplify process for analyzing risk & hazard impacts
 - Standardize setbacks and mitigation measures for sources
 - Draft anticipated for July 2011

A background image of a lush forest with tall trees and green ferns in the foreground. The title 'Risk Reduction Strategies' is overlaid on the right side of the image in a large, bold, black font with a white drop shadow.

Risk Reduction Strategies

- Examples of risk reduction strategies being reviewed and quantified:
 - Indoor air quality filters and ventilation
 - Building heights and air intakes
 - Tree and vegetation buffers
 - Construction equipment technologies
 - Truck routes and idling limitations
 - Railroad and harbor craft technologies
 - Source specific setbacks for drycleaners, back-up generators, gas stations, etc.
 - Land use and transportation planning to reduce vehicle emissions

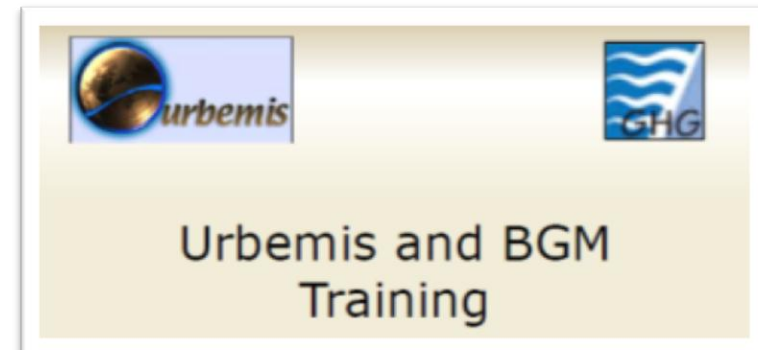
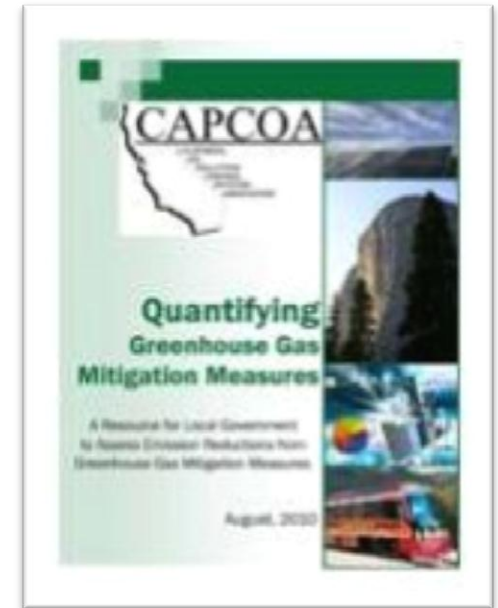


Questions

- Are you using the risk & hazard screening tools?
- Ideas for risk reduction strategies we should study?
- Requests for other specific tools, resources, or trainings?
- Other cities interested in developing a CRRP?
- Other questions/comments?

GHG Update

- CAPCOA GHG Quantification Report released
- Transportation Demand Measures Model – supports VMT reductions for TOD/infill projects
- URBEMIS/BGM classroom and online training videos
- New GHG case stories from local governments on District's climate portal:
www.baaqmd.gov/climateplanning





Addressing Issues Heard to Date

- Need GHG threshold for construction
- How to address projects or emissions that do not fit into CEQA Guidelines methodology, such as landfill emissions
- Need guidance on how to account for reductions from state measures for 2020 and beyond
- Need more consistent methodology for quantifying transportation GHG emissions
- How will future projects demonstrate consistency and tier off GHG Reduction Plan

Collaborating with Local Governments

- Reviewing GHG Reduction Strategies - Solano County, Napa County, San Francisco, Dublin, East Palo Alto, San Ramon
- Local governments are committing to developing GHG Reduction Strategies- Redwood City, City of Santa Clara, San Pablo, Walnut Creek
- Working with local planners on innovative approaches to address GHG
 - GHG performance measures for datacenters
 - GHG threshold for land conversions

Jurisdiction	Completed Community Emissions Inventory	Finalized & Adopted Community Climate Action Plan
Alameda County	x	
Alameda	x	x
Albany	x	x
Berkeley	x	x
Dublin	x	
Emeryville	x	x
Fremont	x	
Hayward	x	x
Livermore	x	
Newark	x	x
Oakland	x	
Piedmont	x	x



CEQA Project Review

- Comment letters support good projects and project features
 - Solano County Climate Action Plan – reduction targets beyond AB 32, strong mix of mandatory and voluntary measures
 - Redwood City Downtown Precise Plan – TOD, innovative parking strategies, bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure
 - San Francisco GHG Reduction Strategy – already meeting GHG reduction targets beyond AB32, meets District’s qualifying criteria
 - City of Santa Clara General Plan – focus on infill/TOD development, commitment to prepare climate action plan and CRRP

CEQA Comment Letters

UPDATED 2/14/2011

The Air District sent the following letters commenting on a project's air quality analysis.

- February 9, 2011 - [City of Fairfield, Fairfield Train Station Specific Plan DEIR](#) (711 k PDF, 3 pgs)
- December 1, 2010 - [Oakland, 325 7th Street DEIR](#) (85 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- November 4, 2010 - [Redwood City, Downtown Precise Plan DEIR](#) (102 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- November 2, 2010 - [San Francisco, 350 Mission Street DEIR](#)
- October 28, 2010 - [San Francisco, GHG Reduction Strategy](#) (90 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- October 26, 2010 - [City of Dublin, Climate Action Plan](#) (74 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- October 21, 2010 - [City of Santa Clara, 3105 Alfred Street Data Center MND](#) (108 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- October 19, 2010 - [San Francisco, California Pacific Medical Center DEIR](#) (136 k PDF, 3 pgs)
- October 15, 2010 - [Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Computer Research Center EA](#) (686 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- October 6, 2010 - [Union City, Climate Action Plan](#) (71 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- October 1, 2010 - [Alameda County, Amendment to County General Ordinance Code, IS/ND](#) (797 k PDF, 3 pgs)
- September 10, 2010 - [San Francisco, Treasure Island DEIR](#) (113 k PDF, 2 pgs)
- August 5, 2010 - [City of Dublin, Climate Action Plan](#) (200 k PDF, 4 pgs)
- August 2, 2010 - [City of Fremont, Patterson Ranch, DEIR](#) (157 k PDF, 3 pgs)
- July 27, 2010 - [Sonoma County, Roblar Road SEIR](#) (706 k PDF, 3 pgs)



GHG Reduction Strategies

Improved features:

- Targets are compatible with AB32
- Measures are being quantified
- Implementation plans include regular updates
- Environmental review is being done
- Integration with general plans

Common issues:

- Leaving emission sources out of inventories (direct access, industrial emissions and water/wastewater treatment are common omissions)
- Data sources and assumptions are often not transparent and clarifications are needed
- Too big a reliance on voluntary measures to achieve targets – need more mandatory measures
- Existing development not addressed aggressively enough



Questions

- Share experience in developing climate action plan? Share innovative mitigation measures?
- Are projects implementing off-site mitigation? Would a District off-site mitigation program be useful?
- Other questions/comments?

A background image of a lush green forest with tall trees and ferns. The title 'Regional Agency Collaboration' is overlaid on the right side of the image in a large, bold, black font with a white outline.

Regional Agency Collaboration

- Coordinating with MTC, ABAG, and BCDC
- Convened Air Quality/PDA workgroup
 - Conducting risk and hazard analysis for PDA communities
 - Support plan level efforts to address air quality impacts and CEQA
 - Streamline CEQA review for PDAs
 - Complement SB 375 process
- Model to calculate benefits of transportation measures in PDAs
- Participating in regional Bay Area Planning Directors Association (BAPDA) meetings

SB 375 Coordination

- Provide technical expertise in regional modeling and housing methodology efforts
- Support streamlining CEQA through SCS
- Continue to monitor SB 375 and state regulations
- Will update CEQA Guidelines to complement SB 375 and SCS

OneBayArea

SPOTLIGHT:
Celebrating Regional
What's New
Scenario
Meeting
Performance Targets
April 22, 2010 Summit
Get Involved
Upcoming Meetings
Meeting Archive
News
Background
Contact Us
Links

Our region has often risen to big challenges. From economic downturns to natural disasters, we are resilient and know how to bounce back. Inspired by breathtaking natural beauty that surrounds us, we launched the environmental movement and joined forces to save San Francisco Bay. Our people are innovators, having sparked the high-tech revolution and the nation's first modern rapid rail system. Yet despite this progress, our region must do more. We must rally our civic and business institutions, and our forward-looking citizens, around a unified campaign to take actions big and small to help protect our environment, our enviable climate and our quality of life.

Let's join together!
One Bay Area is an acknowledgment that we can do this — all 101 cities, nine counties and 7 million of us! We need to join together to address issues like climate change, sustainable growth and development, transportation, and protection of our air and water. Through this initiative, we hope to harness the creativity, resources and force of will to build a better Bay Area today, and for future generations.

One challenge for our region is to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy called for in 2008 state legislation (SB 375). This law calls upon our region and other areas throughout California to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. The Bay Area's regional agencies, together with their local government partners, nonprofit organizations, business and community groups, and interested Bay Area residents, are working together through this effort to tackle pressing issues such as accommodating population growth while keeping the region affordable for all our residents, preserving open spaces, protecting our environment, and getting residents where they need to go, when they need to get there.

We invite you to join in the dialogue to make our region, a better, more sustainable place! Please explore our site and [get involved!](#)

[Sign Up for Email Updates](#)

OPPORTUNITIES:

- [Caricatures, Outreach Opportunities \(PDF\)](#)
Applications are due to February 16, 2011.
- [Station Area Grant Opportunity](#)
Applications are due to March 1, 2011.
- [Call for Transportation Projects](#)
Proposals are due to April 29, 2011.

A video introduction:
OneBayArea
PLAY ▶

[Watch the video on YouTube](#)

Celebrating Regionism: An Oral History Project

100th Anniversary ABAG 1911-2011

MT 40th Anniversary 1971-2011

Association of Bay Area Governments | Bay Area Air Quality Management District | Bay Area Rapid Transit Authority | Metropolitan Transportation Authority



Questions

- Share any specific air quality challenges in PDA communities?
- Have you seen only air quality trigger a DEIR?
- Other questions/comments?