

JANUARY 30, 2015 – BACWA ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG): Hot Topics Update




Engineers...Working Wonders With Water®

What is CWCCG?



- Statewide group representing municipalities collecting and treating over 90 percent of municipal wastewater
- Mission:
 - “address climate change policies, initiatives, and challenges through a unified voice advocating for wastewater community perspectives”*
- What are we doing to help/support you?
 - Track climate change regulations and legislation
 - Meet with regulators, participate in workshops/hearings, and comment/testify as needed
 - Meet monthly to stay ahead of upcoming issues across the State

CWCCG has been responding to many issues over the past year and a half...

Date	Issue for Comment	Receiving Body
April 2013	Draft Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Investment Plan for FY 2013/14 through 2015/16	ARB
May 2013	Proposed Revisions to U.S. EPA GHG Reporting Rule and Confidentiality Determinations for New or Substantially Revised Data Elements	U.S. EPA
May 2013	Draft Recycling and Composting Emissions Protocol	ICLEI USA
July 2013	Draft Waste Management Sector Plan	CalRecycle/ARB
August 2013	Update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan (Kickoff Workshop Presentation)	ARB
October 2013	Final Draft Waste Management Sector Plan	CalRecycle/ARB
November 2013	Revisions to the 1) Mandatory Reporting Regulation and 2) Cap and Trade Regulation	ARB

...and many times our comments were addressed

Date	Issue for Comment	Receiving Body
November 2013	Update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan (Discussion Draft)	ARB
December 2013	Office of Water Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan (NACWA as lead)	U.S. EPA
February 2014	Adaptation strategies for WWTPs in the Safeguarding CA: Reducing Climate Risk	CNRA
April 2014	WWTP opportunities in the Proposed First Update to the AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan	ARB
August 2014	Adaptation strategies for WWTPs in the 4 th California Climate Change Assessment	CNRA
September 2014	Bioenergy at WWTPs in the California Climate Change Research Plan	CEC
Ongoing	Bioenergy Investment Plan for Cap & Trade Auction Proceeds (Led by BAC/CASA)	ARB

CWCCG is providing input on *adapting* communities with an emphasis on:

- Vulnerability of POTWs to sea level rise
- Increasing recycled water use
- Increasing bioenergy production at POTWs

CARB AB 32
Scoping Plan

CNRA 4th Climate
Change Assessment

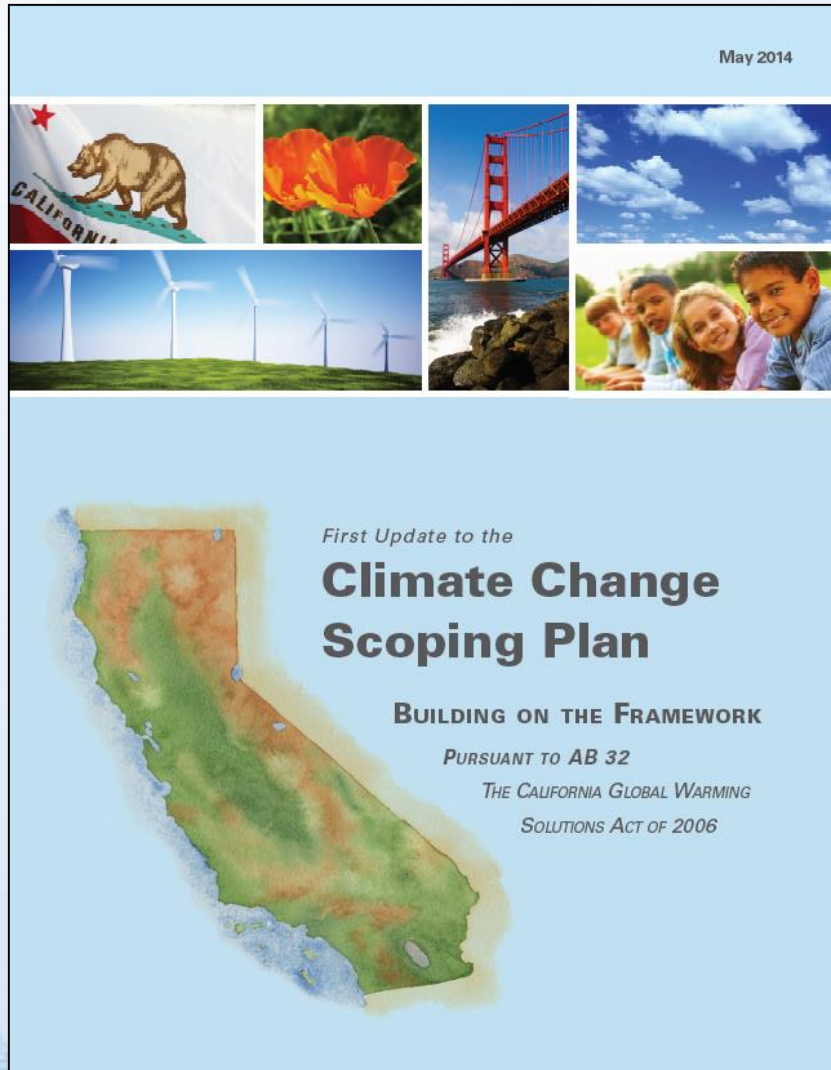
CEC Climate Change
Research Plan



Issues we are considering and will prioritize over the next year include:

- AB 32 (updated) Scoping Plan Goals
- State Legislation (e.g., SB 605 and AB 2516)
- Biogenic CO₂ & Federal GHG Tailoring Rule
- State and Federal Adaptation Policies
- NEPA Draft Guidance on GHG Emissions & Climate Change Impacts
- OEHHA CalEnviroScreen Tool and EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool
- Federal Climate Action Plan and Supporting Programs
- Coordination with BAC, NACWA, WEF, and others
- Other...

First Update to the Climate Change (AB 32) Scoping Plan adopted May 2014



- CA's climate change priorities for next 5 years
- Progress toward meeting 2020 goals
- 9 economic sectors for setting long term (2050) goals:
 - transportation, energy, water, waste management, agriculture, natural and working lands, short-lived climate pollutants, green buildings, and cap-and-trade
- Set an interim target between 2020 and 2050

CWCCG recently prioritized AB 32 Scoping Plan goals relevant to POTWs

AB 32 Economic Sectors and Post-2020 Goals Relevant to POTWs	Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
By 2015, develop incentives for resource-recovery wastewater treatment projects	11		
By 2016, modify state and regional water board policies and permits to achieve conservation, water recycling, stormwater reuse, and wastewater-to-energy goals	10	1	
Funding/incentivizing in-state infrastructure: Cap-and-Trade Investment Plan Loan, grant, and payment programs LCFS pathways (anaerobic digestion at POTWs) CPUC proceedings (e.g., biogas from anaerobic digestion and Renewable Market Adjusting Tariff) Offset protocols recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion)	10	1	
CPUC and CEC streamlining process to develop a low-cost interconnection process for distributed generation by 2015	7	2	2
Identifying/recommending actions to address cross-CA agency and federal permitting and siting challenges associated with composting and anaerobic digestion	4	6	1
Develop a plan for a post-2020 Cap-and-Trade program	4	5	2
Eventually eliminate disposal of organic materials to landfills with compliance actions in 2016	5	2	4
Developing a strategy for mitigating SLCPs by 2015 (including methane)	4	4	3
Reducing emissions of smog-forming pollutants (VOCs, NOx, CO) to ~90 percent below 2010 levels by 2032 to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone	4	4	3
Bioenergy Interagency Working Group implementing actions in the Bioenergy Action Plan in 2015 to promote input of (dairy) digester biogas into natural gas pipelines and bioenergy onto the electric grid – may be an avenue for getting wastewater digester gas in the Plan as well.	3	5	3
By 2016, implement green infrastructure permits to treat and capture urban runoff for local use	2	6	3
Leverage public money to scale-up clean technology markets and ensure infrastructure investments: AB 118 Air Quality Improvement Program AB 118 Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds	1	7	3

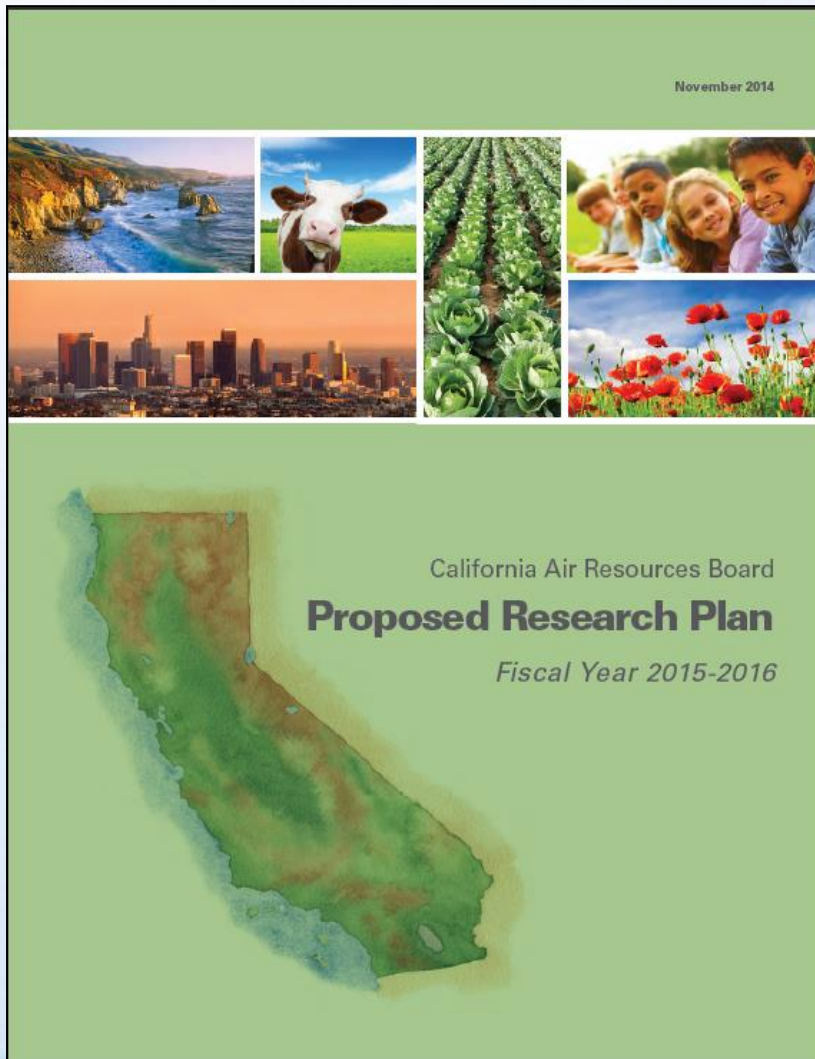
Governor's Inaugural Speech announced three ambitious goals for 2030

- Increase renewable electricity production to 50% from 33%
- Reduce petroleum use in cars/trucks by up to 50%
- Double the efficiency of existing buildings and make heating fuels cleaner



Multiple bills being introduced for the Air Resources Board to set an interim GHG emission reduction target for 2030

Proposed Research Plan FY 2015-16 (November 2014)



- ~\$6.5M in projects to be allocated across 6 categories:
 - Economic Assessment (5%)
 - Atmospheric Science (9%)
 - Sustainable Communities (13%)
 - Health & Exposure (14%)
 - **SLCPs and N₂O (17%)**
 - Transportation (42%)
- 9 research projects proposed for \$2.95M

Proposed Research Plan wants to look at wastewater liquid and solids streams!

- **Characterize Additional and Uncertain N₂O Emission Sources** (\$400k, 30 months, UC researchers to lead)
 - Wastewater treatment
 - Effluent/discharge
 - Sewage sludge/biosolids (drying methods and final disposal or use)
 - Measure other gases if possible:
 - NO_x, CH₄, VOCs, etc.
- ARB acknowledges there are “...extremely variable N₂O fluxes in response to site-specific conditions.”
- Project goal is to develop emissions estimates or factors
- CWCCG is already in discussions with the ARB Project Manager

L.A. Basin CH₄ emissions 18-61% higher than ARB estimates

CO₂ emissions associated with bioenergy and other biogenic sources

- **Revised framework for assessing biogenic CO₂ emissions from stationary sources – November 2014**

- Second draft being peer reviewed by Scientific Advisory Board
- Asst Administrator Janet McCabe issued a memo to EPA's Regional Air Division Directors about the current thinking:

"...waste-derived feedstocks will likely have minimal or no net atmospheric contributions of biogenic CO₂ emissions..."

- <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/biogenic-emissions.html>

- **Federal GHG Tailoring Rule will be modified**

- GHG emissions alone cannot bring you into PSD and Title V permitting programs
- Only very large facilities *already in a program* may exceed GHG thresholds and bring GHGs into the programs



Questions?

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**Next CWCCG meeting:
February 19th**

**(Attend via phone or at one of Carollo's Offices
in Orange County, Sacramento, and Walnut Creek)**



AIR ISSUES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

A Committee of the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

**BACWA Annual
Members' Meeting
January 30, 2015**

HOT BAAQMD TOPICS

- Updates to Regulation 2: Permits
 - Interchangeable Emission Reduction Credits (Rule 9)
 - Can be used to meet BARCT
 - Existing Emission Reduction Credits off sets only
 - BACT for Biogas-Fueled CHP/ICE Systems
 - Balance Ozone Precursors with GHG Reduction
 - PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ Non-Attainment
 - BACT for new sources
 - BARCT for existing sources
 - Subject to Health Risk Screen
- Revised OEHHA Health Risk Assessment Guidance:
 - Increases existing cancer risk by 200% or more
 - BAAQMD Implementation
 - Changes to risk screening action levels
 - Impact on air toxics inventories
 - Update of existing AB 2588 Risk Assessments



Aboveground Storage Tanks

- Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) for Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs)
 - Standing Loss Control Requirements already adopted
 - Phase I controls - July 1, 2014 - existing ASTs
 - BAAQMD requires an Application to Construct for the installation of Phase I systems
 - Until further notice, February 28, 2014 advisory remains in effect:
 - Air Districts should not enforce the July 1, 2014 compliance deadline for potentially exempt ASTs
 - AST fuel throughput qualifying for exemption is quite low
 - Additional information: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/vapor/regad111814.pdf>



Transition AIR Committee to a BACWA Subcommittee

- Air Committee discussed On January 14, 2015
 - Benefits:
 - Allows the inclusion of all 46 BACWA member agencies
 - Administrative tasks could be handed to BACWA staff
 - AIR Committee could apply to the BACWA Board for Special Request funding
 - Eliminates the AIR Committee fundraising responsibilities
 - Concerns
 - Risk losing AIR Committee technical support and freedom to use funds
 - BACWA Board may not have technical background to ensure AIR Committee's success
 - AIR Committee agreed to a one-year trial period for FY 2015/16:
 - AIR Committee will be a standing committee under BACWA
 - Some administrative tasks may be handled by BACWA staff
 - CH2M HILL will continue to provide technical support
 - AIR Committee dues will be reduced by 1/3rd



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SB 605 – Short-lived climate pollutants

- Requires reduction of short-lived climate pollutants
 - methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone
 - other pollutants with lifetime of a “few days to a few decades”
- Presents a concern for the wastewater community since:
 - “wastewater” shown as fifth largest source of methane in CA
 - noted as an underestimated source of methane in the updated AB 32 Scoping Plan
- ARB plans to research methane from the wastewater sector over next two to five years to determine if POTWs will need to measure and reduce methane emissions

AB 2516 – Sea level rise planning database

- Introduced after Assembly Select Committee Hearing on Sea Level Rise and the California Economy
 - October 2013 – testimony delivered by Kevin Hardy on behalf of POTWs
- Requires:
 - CNRA and OPC to create an online “Planning for Sea Level Rise Database”
 - Studies/reports/data provided by public and private agencies including RWQCBs and SWRCB
 - CNRA to determine what and how data will be collected (by July 1, 2015)
 - Database to be updated biannually beginning January 1, 2016

