

# **Notice of Preparation**

To: California Office of Planning and Research, Responsible Agencies, Trustee

Agencies, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Substitute Environmental Document

**Project Title:** California's 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan

Lead Agency: California Air Resources Board

**Date:** July 23, 2021

Review Period: July 23, 2021 - August 23, 2021

As the Lead Agency, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will prepare a substitute environmental document (referred to as an "Environmental Analysis" or "EA") as part of the Staff Report prepared for the proposed project identified above. CARB would like to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. If the proposed project has no relevance to you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary.

Information on the project description, location, and potential environmental effects, as currently known, are contained in the notice for a public workshop to be held remotely on August 17, 2021. In addition to soliciting input on the proposed project, this workshop will also serve as a CEQA scoping meeting to solicit input on scope and content of the EA to be prepared for the proposed project. Additional information on this proposed project is available for review on the Program webpage at the following link:

https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/ab-32-climate-change-scoping-plan

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) is available for review and comment for 30 days, per CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15082(b)). The comment period for this NOP begins July 23, 2021 and ends on August 23, 2021. Due to the limits mandated by State law, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 11:59PM on August 23, 2021.

Please submit your written comments to ceqa.unit@arb.ca.gov or via mail to Chyrisse Pineda, Air Resources Board Legal Office/CEQA Unit, P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, CA

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95812-2815. In your response, please indicate the public agency or other entity you represent, and the name and phone number of a contact person.

Date: 07/26/2021 Signature: Gabe Nevin /s/

Gabe Nevin

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## List of Agencies to Review

Distributed to agencies marked with an "X" below:

STATE AGENCIES		
☐ Boating & Waterways, Department of	⊠ OEHHA	
☐ California Highway Patrol	Office of Historic Preservation	
□ CalRecycle     □ CalRecycle	☐ Office of Emergency Services	
	☐ Parks & Recreation, Department of	
□ Caltrans Planning	☑ Pesticide Regulation, Department of	
	□ Public Utilities Commission	
☑ Conservation, Department of Oil, Gas &	☐ Regional Water Quality Control Board #	
Geothermal Resources	□ Resources Agency	
☑ Delta Protection Commission	☐ SF Bay Conservation & Development	
	Commission	
☑ Fish & Wildlife, Department of		
	State Water Resources Control Board     State Water Resources Control Board	
☑ Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	☐ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency	
☐ Health Services, Department of		
	☐ University of California	
	<ul> <li>☑ Water Resources, Department of</li> </ul>	
□ Native American Heritage Commission	<ul><li>☑ Building Standards Commission</li></ul>	
□ California Environmental Protection Agency	<ul> <li>☑ Department of Public Health</li> </ul>	
☑ Department of General Services	<ul> <li>☒ California Tahoe Conservancy</li> </ul>	
	⊠ Sierra Nevada Conservancy	
□ California High Speed Rail Authority		
□ Department of Conservation – Division of	Other:	
Land Resource Protection		
AIR DISTRICTS		
	☑ Monterey Bay Unified APCD	
☑ Antelope Valley AQMD	☑ North Coast Unified AQMD	
☑ Bay Area AQMD	☑ Northern Sierra AQMD	
☑ Butte County AQMD		
	☑ Placer County APCD	
☑ Glenn County APCD		
☑ Great Basin Unified APCD	Shasta County AQMD	
□ Lake County AQMD	⊠ South Coast AQMD	
□ Lassen County APCD     □ Lassen Cou	☑ Tehama County APCD	
	□ Tuolumne County APCD	

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☑ Mojave Desert AQMD		
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES		



### PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

A copy of an Initial Study is not attached because CARB complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) through its regulatory program certified by the California Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 (14 CCR 15251(d)). Public agencies with certified regulatory programs are exempt from certain CEQA requirements, including but not limited to, preparing environmental impact reports, negative declarations, and initial studies (14 CCR 15250).

The Environmental Analysis (EA) will evaluate the potential for impacts to the environment as a result of the proposed project: California's 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan (2022 Scoping Plan Update). The project and the nature of potential impacts that could result from the project are described below.

#### PROJECT TITLE:

California's 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan

#### PROJECT LOCATION:

The project has statewide applicability.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In 2006, the Legislature passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 [Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32)], which created a comprehensive, multi-year program to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California. AB 32 required CARB to, among other things, develop a Scoping Plan that describes the approach California will take to reduce GHG emissions to achieve 1990 levels by 2020, and to update the Scoping Plan at least once every five years. The initial Scoping Plan was approved by the Board in 2008. The first update to the Scoping Plan was approved in 2014 and built upon the initial Scoping Plan with new strategies and set the groundwork to reach long-term goals set forth in Executive Orders S-3-05 and B-16-2012. The 2017 Scoping Plan Update laid out a cost-effective and technologically feasible path to achieve a 40 percent reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2030, as required by Senate Bill 32 (SB 32).

The 2022 Scoping Plan Update will assess progress towards achieving the SB 32 2030 target and lay out a path to eliminate new internal combustion passenger vehicles by 2035 (Executive Order N-79-20), include natural and working lands in supporting

carbon neutrality (Executive Order N-82-20), phase out in-state oil extraction by 2045<sup>1</sup>, and evaluate how to achieve statewide carbon neutrality on both 2035 and 2045 time scales.<sup>2</sup> The State achieved its 2020 target four years earlier than mandated. Achieving carbon neutrality will bring a number of changes to California, including moving the State away from fossil fuel combustion in a manner that supports job retention and creation as California makes a just transition towards a clean energy economy.

#### PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The EA will evaluate the potential for impacts on the environmental resource areas found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. The evaluation of environmental impacts will provide a programmatic level of environmental review (CCR 14 Section 15168). The environmental review is considered to be programmatic because it analyzes a plan that proposes a series of activities that could be carried out under the same or similar authorizing statutory or regulatory authority, having generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways (15 CCR 15168). Use of a program document allows for several advantages, including: a more exhaustive consideration of effects and alternatives than would be practical for an individual action; avoidance of duplicative consideration of basic policy considerations; and consideration of cumulative impacts that might be slighted in a case-by-case analysis. The analysis will address broadly defined types of impacts or actions that may be taken by others in the future as a result of California's 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan.

The proposed project would have beneficial impacts related to GHG emissions in the State. Potential adverse impacts would be associated with the reasonably foreseeable compliance responses related to the 2022 Scoping Plan Update, which may include but are not limited to: construction of new facilities; modification of existing facilities; installation of energy efficient and/or electric equipment and appliances; increased renewable energy generation, including wind and solar facilities; reductions in short-lived climate pollutants; changes in land use or management for forests, agriculture, or other landscapes; increased biofuel production; introduction of new zero emission vehicles and increases in demand for associated minerals and materials; new charging, fueling, and electrical infrastructure; and new carbon dioxide removal technologies and practices.

The reasonably foreseeable compliance responses associated with California's 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan could potentially adversely or beneficially affect the following resource areas, which will be further evaluated in the EA:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Governor Newsom Takes Action to Phase Out Oil Extraction in California | California Governor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CARB-Letter 07.09.2021.pdf and Executive Order B-55-18.

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- o <u>Aesthetics</u>
- o Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- o <u>Air Quality</u>
- o <u>Biological Resources</u>
- o Cultural Resources
- o <u>Energy</u>
- o Geology and Soils
- o <u>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</u>
- o <u>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</u>
- o <u>Hydrology and Water Quality</u>
- o <u>Land Use and Planning</u>
- o Mineral Resources
- o Noise
- o <u>Population and Housing</u>
- o Recreation
- o <u>Transportation</u>
- o <u>Tribal Cultural Resources</u>
- o <u>Utilities and Service Systems</u>
- o <u>Wildfire</u>

Potential cumulative impacts and potential for growth inducement will be evaluated in the EA, as well as alternatives, including the No Project Alternative.