



Overview of California's Climate Change Initiatives: AB 32, SB 375 and CEQA

SB 375 Workshop Local Government Commission

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AB 32: The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006

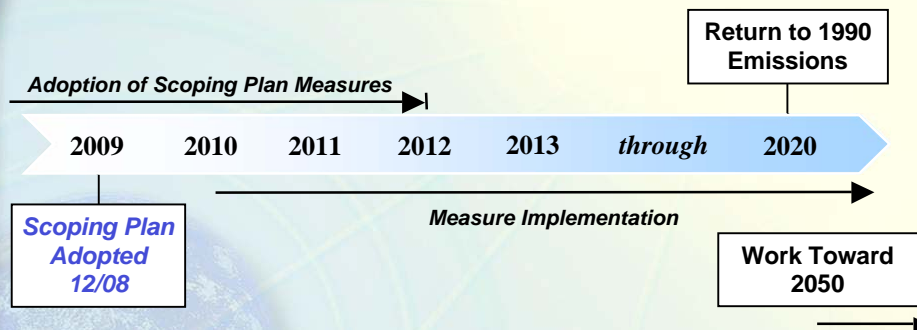
- AB 32 established the first economy-wide climate change regulatory program in the United States
- AB 32 sets GHG emissions limit for 2020 at 1990 level
 - Acknowledges that 2020 is not the endpoint
 - Points way toward 80% reduction by 2050
- ARB adopted a Scoping Plan in December 2008
 - Plan provides a framework for achieving AB 32's GHG emissions reduction target

The Scoping Plan

- California's plan, developed by ARB, to reduce the State's emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
- The Scoping Plan provides:
 - A model for other states, regions or nations
 - Framework for regulatory requirements
 - A vision for a low carbon future beyond 2020

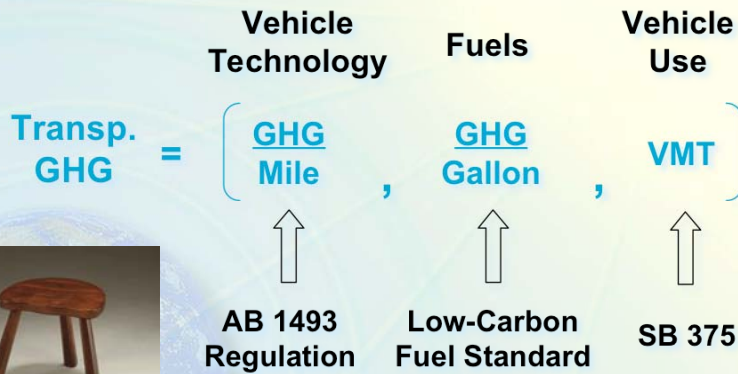
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The Next Chapters



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Transportation GHGs



SB 375

Landmark Legislation

“In order to reach California’s greenhouse gas goals we must rethink how we design our communities”

- Governor’s Office Fact Sheet on SB 375

SB 375 – Basics

- Regional greenhouse gas targets
- Regional plans to meet targets
- Regional housing needs assessment (RHNA)
- Environmental document streamlining

Timeline

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| ✓ Jan 31, 2009 | ARB appoints Regional Targets Advisory Committee (RTAC) |
| Sept 30, 2009 | RTAC recommendations due to ARB |
| June 30, 2010 | ARB deadline to issue draft targets |
| Sept 30, 2010 | ARB deadline to adopt final targets |
| Post-target setting | RTP and General Plan housing element updates addressing SB 375 requirements |

Regional Targets

- Regional targets set for:
 - 18 metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs)
 - Calendar years 2020 and 2035
 - Light duty vehicles
- ARB sets final targets by Sept. 30, 2010

Target Setting Process

- Regional Targets Advisory Committee (RTAC) recommends methods and factors for setting regional targets
- ARB exchanges data with MPOs and affected air districts
- MPOs may propose targets for their region
- Process involves extensive stakeholder input

What is Happening Now

- RTAC meetings held at least monthly
 - Past discussions centered on economic and technical considerations for target setting
 - April meetings focus on target setting approaches and metrics
- State agency coordination
- High level of MPO involvement

Local Government Participation

- Success of SB 375 ultimately relies on local governments
- Local decisions are key to regional strategy to reduce greenhouse gases
- Cities and regions are diverse--work within context of regional efforts
- Locals are encouraged to collaborate with Metropolitan Planning Organizations and participate in RTAC process

Opportunities and Hopeful Outcomes

- Help meet AB 32 and long-term GHG goals
- Provide regions with new planning opportunities and challenges
- Give builders incentives to provide more sustainable developments
- Give individuals more housing and transportation options
- Provide co-benefits (improved quality of life, reduced energy use and criteria pollutants)
- Coordinate transportation, land use, housing and greenhouse gas planning

CEQA and Greenhouse Gases

- Senate Bill 97 requires assessment of greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts as part of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- In response, there are numerous threshold development efforts by:
 - State agencies
 - Air districts
 - Local governments
 - Other stakeholders

ARB Effort

- Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) asked ARB to recommend a method for setting thresholds of significance
- Draft recommendation released Oct 2008
- Public workshops held on Oct and Dec 2008
- Effort is currently on hold as staff evaluate comments and OPR's Draft CEQA Guideline Amendments

For More Information

- ARB SB 375 Web Site
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/sb375.htm>
- OPR CEQA Web Site
<http://opr.ca.gov/index.php?a=ceqa/index.html>
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