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Charge to the Stationary and Area Source Committee to Pursue Potential Strategies for Regional Attainment of Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) directs the Executive Staff and the OTC Stationary and Area Source (SAS) Committee to perform technical, legal and economic analyses to help OTC identify strategies to achieve cost-effective reductions of ozone-forming pollutants. The goal is to identify potential strategies (including delineation of appropriate geographical areas for application of such strategies) for consideration by the OTC. These stationary and area source strategies include the following:

(1) Largest Contributor Analysis.

Identify the largest individual and groupings of NOx sources within the OTC and non-OTC states. This analysis should use the most recent available state and regional emissions inventory data, with emphasis on states that contribute at least 1% of the 2008 and 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) of 75 and 70 ppb, respectively, to a monitor in the OTC region. Evaluate application of OTR, super regional, and national measures to reduce the emissions in a cost effective manner and technically sound manner from the identified sources. The Committee should develop additional strategies, if necessary, to reduce the peak day emissions from such units during the ozone season.

(2) Distributed and Emergency Generators.

Estimate the emissions from the use of demand response generation units. Collaborate with other committees of the OTC to analyze the potential air quality impact from the operation of these units, and develop recommendations for potential control strategies to the Commission.

(3) Vapor Recovery.

Serve as a forum for the discussion of the costs, emission reductions, performance characteristics, operating costs, and gasoline savings from improved Stage I equipment.

(4) Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT).

To provide each state with a common base of information, a workgroup will develop a listing of emissions rates in each state within the OTR for source categories responsible for significant NOx and VOC emissions and identify a range of emissions rates that the respective state has determined to be RACT. Some of the source categories that should be included in the listing include electrical generating units, turbines, boilers, engines and municipal waste combustors.

(5) Economic Impact Assessment.

As directed in a May 24, 2012 Charge to the Stationary and Area Source Committee, the Committee should provide an economic impact assessment of each new or significantly revised strategy that is presented to the Commission

for action or consideration.

To be completed by the 2016 Annual Meeting

1. Report on the development of a voluntary framework to reduce emissions from Consumer Product and Architectural and Industrial Maintenance Coatings as a supplement to EPA rulemaking or State by State Adoption of the OTC model rules;
2. A report providing a compendium of RACT levels adopted in the OTR; and
3. A report on emissions on high electric demand days from demand response including behind the meter generators, peaking units, and small electric generating units (less than 25MW).

The Committee shall notify the OTC member states of any updates to any previously developed OTC model rule that is based on a rule of the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and shall update any such model rules to include any product categories or standards adopted by CARB. The other committees of the OTC are directed to provide whatever assistance is needed to the Stationary and Area Source Committee in carrying out this Charge.

Adopted by the Commission on November 5, 2015