

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

California Environmental Protection Agency programs restore and protect environmental quality, and protect public health. The Secretary coordinates the state's environmental regulatory programs and ensures fair and consistent enforcement of environmental law, which safeguards the state's residents and promotes the state's economic vitality.

---

## CALIFORNIA GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS ACT

The Budget provides \$23.7 million and 125 positions for the Air Resources Board (Air Board) to continue the implementation of AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act. The Air Board will use these positions to evaluate the broadest possible array of source and sector specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction opportunities. The major activities that the Air Board will engage in include the following:

- Emissions Inventory Development and Mandatory Reporting. By collecting GHG emissions data from throughout California, the Air Board will be able to identify the major sources of emissions and focus its efforts on those sources where the largest reductions may be obtained.
- Emissions Reduction Scoping Plan. The Act requires the Air Board to develop a comprehensive scoping plan to reduce California's GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. To this end, the Air Board will evaluate the cost-effectiveness and technological feasibility of all feasible reduction strategies, analyze economic and other impacts, and ultimately make recommendations for a series of actions.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- Early Action Measures. The Air Board will utilize staff to implement approved early action measures and evaluate additional actions that will accelerate the reduction in GHG emissions called for by AB 32.
- Scientific and Economic Analysis. Scientific, technical, and economic analyses will be conducted to ensure that the emission reductions ultimately approved will be technologically feasible and cost effective. In doing so, the Air Board will seek to identify measures that maximize additional environmental and economic benefits for California.
- Additionally, 4.0 positions have been approved to enhance the ability of the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to continue her role administering the Climate Action Team (CAT). The CAT is made up of the major state entities involved in addressing climate change, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Resources Agency, the Air Board, the California Public Utilities Commission, the State Energy Commission, the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the Department of Food and Agriculture, the Integrated Waste Management Board, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. Through the operation of the CAT, the Secretary is responsible for ensuring effective coordination of California's climate change activities.

---

## PROPOSITION 1B IMPLEMENTATION

Proposition 1B provides \$1 billion to fund projects intended to improve air quality along four of California's major transportation corridors: from the Los Angeles ports to the Inland Empire, State Route 99 in the Central Valley, the San Francisco Bay Area, and the San Diego border region. The Air Board will be developing program guidelines and will solicit project proposals. The projects to be funded are intended to achieve air quality improvements above and beyond anything required by current law or regulation. The Budget Act contains \$250 million for the Air Board to award during 2007-08.

Proposition 1B also provides \$200 million to replace older, higher-polluting school buses. This funding will allow all school buses of model year 1976 and earlier to be replaced. Once this is accomplished, the Air Board will allocate the balance of the remaining funds to local air districts in proportion to the number of school buses of model years 1977 through 1986 operating in each district. The air districts will then allocate the funding for either the retrofit of the buses, or their complete replacement. The Budget contains \$193 million to be awarded in 2007-08 for this purpose.

---

## HYDROGEN HIGHWAY

The Budget includes \$6.03 million and 7.7 positions from the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA) for the Governor's Hydrogen Highway Initiative, which promotes the use of hydrogen as a means of diversifying California's sources of transportation energy. The funds will be used to provide matching funds for up to eight publicly accessible hydrogen fueling stations. The Air Board will prioritize funding for stations that generate hydrogen from promising renewable technologies such as biomass, solar, and wind energy.

---

## PROPOSITION 84—WATER QUALITY

Proposition 84 provides \$5.4 billion to address a wide array of natural resource and environmental protection needs. The Budget provides \$105.3 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), to be used for the following programs:

- \$75.7 million and 8 positions for the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Program, which provides low-interest loans or grants to construct municipal wastewater treatment facilities, storm water pollution control projects, non-point source pollution projects, and estuary enhancement projects. This funding will provide the state share so that locals may obtain federal matching funds.
- \$6.2 million and 1.5 positions for the Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program, which provides grants for public agencies or nonprofit organizations to improve agricultural water quality, including research projects and construction of agricultural drainage water improvements.
- \$14.6 million and 3 positions for the Urban Storm Water Grant Program, which provides grants to local public agencies for projects that contain stormwater runoff, such as facilities that divert the runoff to treatment plants.
- \$8.8 million and 5.7 positions for the Clean Beaches Grant Program, which provides grants to public agencies for water quality projects in coastal waters, estuaries and bays. Projects include septic system upgrades, stormwater pollution reduction programs, and clean beach projects in Santa Monica. Proposition 84 specifies that 20 percent of the funds for clean beaches be allocated to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.

---

## BROWNFIELDS

- Brownfields are abandoned industrial or commercial properties that are contaminated by hazardous materials. Typically, brownfields are located in urban areas on land that would otherwise be valuable for infill residential or business uses. Cities and counties are routinely interested in eliminating the blighted conditions of these properties, aware that their redevelopment will optimize the use of existing infrastructure, limit urban sprawl, and protect natural resources. In order to bring these properties back to usable condition, various cleanup activities are required, and the state plays a critical role in overseeing the cleanup efforts.
- The Water Board and the Department of Toxic Substances Control administer voluntary brownfield cleanup programs to assist local governments and private developers in the cleanup of brownfield sites. The Budget includes \$3.1 million Cleanup and Abatement Account and 25.1 positions for the Water Board to accelerate the cleanup of approximately 750 brownfield sites. The Budget also includes \$219,000 special funds and 1.9 positions for the Department of Toxic Substances Control to implement three brownfields-related measures signed into law in 2006: SB 354 (Chapter 523), SB 989 (Chapter 510), and AB 2144 (Chapter 562).

---

## BIOMONITORING

Biomonitoring is a method of assessing human exposure to chemicals based on sampling and analysis of an individual's tissues and fluids. The results of these measurements provide information about the amounts of chemicals that enter and remain in the body. By monitoring the levels of chemicals in a given population, scientists can gauge the level of chemical exposure in a community. Actions to protect public health may then be designed to mitigate unacceptable exposure risk.

SB 1379 (Chapter 599, Statutes of 2006) established the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program in order to initiate a biomonitoring effort in California. The Budget contains \$5.2 million General Fund for the first year of biomonitoring activities. The funding will be divided among the Department of Toxic Substances Control (\$1.6 million), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (\$0.4 million), and the Department of Public Health (\$3.2 million). The first year is expected to be spent on planning the biomonitoring effort, and additional funding will be provided for implementation in subsequent budgets.