

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 29, 2009

**To:** Board of Port Commissioners

**From:** David Merk  
Director, Environmental Services  
dmerk@portofsandiego.org

**Subject:** Summary – October 15, 2009, Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

---

The Environmental Advisory Committee met on October 15, 2009.

The following members, constituting a quorum, were in attendance: Commissioner Scott Peters (Committee Chair); Commissioner Lee Burdick; Andrew McAllister, CA Center for Sustainable Energy; Bob Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); Craig Anderson, Solar Turbines; Dr. Rick Gersberg, SDSU; Emily Young, San Diego Foundation; John Robertus, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB); Lorena Gonzalez, San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council AFL/CIO; Mary Small (for Megan Johnson), CA Coastal Conservancy; and Patti Krebs, Industrial Environmental Association.

Port staff members present were: David Merk, Eileen Maher, Irene McCormack, Michelle White, Allison Gutierrez, Stephanie Bauer, Cody Hooven, Jenny Lybeck, Katya Mishina, Darlene Nicandro, Paul Brown, Matt Valerio, John Gilmore, Danny Arredondo, and Rachel Verhoeks (minutes).

Other interested parties in attendance were: Dave Carey, David Carey & Associates; Eric Chavez, NMFS; Sharon Cloward, Port Tenants Association; Laura Hunter and Nicole Capretz, Environmental Health Coalition (EHC); Barry Snyder, Michelle Woo, and Rolf Schottle, AMEC Earth & Environmental; Rob Manriquez and Linda Hunter, Tetra Tech; Mo Husain, MH Systems; Russ McCarthy, Northrop Grumman; Clark Dawson, Clark Dawson Company; Jack Monger, The Monger Company; Whitney Benzian; and Mike Hogan.

The following members were absent: Bruce Reznik, San Diego Coastkeeper; Diane Takvorian, EHC; Laurie Black, LJ Black Consulting Group; and Mitch Perdue, U.S. Navy.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am. The following is a summary of the meeting.

**Subject:** Summary – October 15, 2009, Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

## **WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS:**

Commissioner Peters welcomed everyone and provided a general overview on the topic of climate change.

## **ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION / COMMENTS:**

### **Climate Change-**

Emily Young, San Diego Foundation, gave a presentation entitled *The San Diego Foundation's Climate Initiative*. She described potential local impacts and risks of climate change, suggestions on what public agencies should do now, and adaptation strategies necessary for our region. Visit [www.sdfoundation.org](http://www.sdfoundation.org) for the full report.

Andrew McAllister, CA Center for Sustainable Energy, gave a presentation entitled *CARB and AB32: Status Update on Ports*. He provided a status update on regulations related to emissions from cargo-handling equipment and ocean going vessels, as well as an overview of other ports' experience and plans.

Michelle White, Port Environmental Services, briefly explained that staff is developing a Clean Air Action Plan. Also provided was a *Green Port Program* handout that describes the Program's goals and objectives.

Dr. Rick Gersberg, SDSU, and Emily Young, San Diego Foundation, provided an overview of adaptation issues for our region. Adaptation issues include wetland habitat and biodiversity loss, beach and cliff erosion, temperature increase, building and infrastructure protection, water quality and supply, and a rise in energy demand.

Commissioner Burdick acknowledged tenant water conservation efforts and inquired as to how the Port could encourage tenants to begin addressing other issues such as climate change. Craig Anderson, Solar Turbines, stated that tenants are interested in having a discussion. Commissioner Peters and Sharon Cloward plan to draft an email to the tenants.

Nicole Capretz, EHC, gave a presentation entitled *GHG Reduction Options for the Port of San Diego*. It included an overview of various emission reduction options and funding opportunities. Reduction options included retrofitting existing buildings, clean renewables such as solar installations over parking lots, and distributed generation (fuel cells, hybrid systems, and cogeneration). Climate action plan policy options included conducting a green house gas (GHG) inventory, establishing a GHG reduction goal, conducting retro-commissioning on Port facilities, and retrofit incentives and/or requirements for tenant facilities.

**Subject:** Summary – October 15, 2009, Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:**

Remaining 2009 meeting dates and topics are: November 19 – Water Quality.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Sharon Cloward, Port Tenants Association, thanked the Port for sponsoring Clean Sweep in August. There will also be a small industrial cleanup at the Chula Vista Nature Center on December 12.

Commissioner Peters asked that climate action plan comments be emailed to Port staff so they could be discussed at a future Committee meeting. At a future meeting, staff would come back with a process including stakeholder input.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.