



Agenda Item: F-11  
Agenda Date: January 15, 2026  
Agenda Placement: Admin  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No

## Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Aeron Arlin Genet, Air Pollution Control Officer 

CONTACT: Mike McKay, Air Quality Specialist, (805) 979-8331

SUBJECT: Resolution for Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the attached Resolution to amend the administration percentage the District receives to implement the FARMER Program from the existing 12.5% to the percentage listed within the most recent FARMER Program Guidelines (which is currently 15%).

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2018, your Board approved participation in California Air Resources Board's (CARB) FARMER Program to implement emission reduction projects from agricultural equipment throughout Santa Barbara County. Since that time, the District has expended a total of \$3,832,082 towards the implementation of 52 agricultural emission reduction projects.

Despite the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) advocating for additional funds for CARB's FARMER Program, the state legislature has allocated significantly reduced funding for the program, and in State's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 budget only \$2 million was allocated statewide with the majority of those funds earmarked for projects in San Joaquin Valley Air District.

### **DISCUSSION:**

When additional funds are available, the District will continue to implement projects in Santa Barbara County, with a goal to prioritize benefits for disadvantaged and low-income

communities as identified in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 model<sup>1</sup> and California Assembly Bill 1550<sup>2</sup>. In addition, the District receives annual grants from CARB's Carl Moyer Program and Community Air Protection Program – which also can be used to fund agricultural equipment projects – and continues to perform outreach to solicit applications, including presentations at Santa Barbara County Agricultural Advisory Committee meetings, ongoing meetings with agricultural equipment dealers, email notices, news releases, District website updates, and other events and opportunities.

District Board Resolution 21-06, approved on December 16, 2021, delegates authority to the Air Pollution Control Officer to enter into grant agreements with CARB for the FARMER program, in FY 2021-22 and in future years, for amounts not to exceed \$2,000,000 each fiscal year, and subject to review and approval by District Counsel, Risk Management, and the Auditor-Controller, and all other necessary documents to implement and carry out the purposes of this resolution.

The District's implementation of the FARMER Program is supported by administration funds, the amount of which shall be granted to the District consistent with the current FARMER Program Guidelines in effect (most recently revised on October 24, 2024). The modifications included in the attached resolution allow the District to receive the allowable administrative funds that are consistent with CARB's approved program guidelines.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

California Legislature authorized \$2 million in FARMER funds in the adopted FY 2024-25 budget. Upon securing future funds, they will be incorporated in the District's Fiscal Year proposed budget. The District is not required to provide matching funds for the FARMER Program, and the District's implementation of the FARMER Program is supported by administration funds, the amount of which shall be granted to the District consistent with the current FARMER Program Guidelines in effect (currently 15%).

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

- A. Board Resolution in the matter of continued participation in the California Air Resources Board's FARMER Program.

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<sup>1</sup> The California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen), developed by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, identifies California communities by census tract that are disproportionately burdened by, and vulnerable to, multiple sources of pollution.

<sup>2</sup> California Assembly Bill 1550 places additional allocation requirements for the California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to benefit low-income communities.

## ATTACHMENT A

Board Resolution in the  
matter of continued participation in the  
California Air Resources Board's FARMER Program

January 15, 2026

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District  
Board of Directors

260 San Antonio Road, Suite A  
Santa Barbara, California 93110

1011 West McCoy Lane  
Santa Maria, California 93455

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT**

IN THE MATTER OF CONTINUED  
PARTICIPATION IN THE CALIFORNIA  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD'S FUNDING  
AGRICULTURAL REPLACEMENT  
MEASURES FOR EMISSION  
REDUCTIONS PROGRAM

APCD RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, since 2018, the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) Board of Directors (District Board) has approved participation in the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) program with Board Resolutions 18-18, 19-05, and 19-18; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2018, the District has accepted and expended \$3,832,082 of CARB FARMER funds towards the development of 52 agricultural emission reduction projects in Santa Barbara County; and

**WHEREAS**, District Board Resolution 20-13 delegates authority to the Air Pollution Control Officer to execute individual grant agreements that meet specified parameters, including authorized overall grant program with an authorized overall budget, established cost-effectiveness limits, and the use of a standard District grant agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, in Board Resolution 21-06, the District Board delegated authority to the Air Pollution Control Officer to enter into grant agreements with CARB for the FARMER program, in FY 2021-22 and in future years, for amounts not to exceed \$2,000,000, subject to review and approval by District Counsel, Risk Management, and the Auditor-Controller, and all other necessary documents to implement and carry out the purposes of this resolution.

**WHEREAS**, CARB developed FARMER program guidelines to meet the state's emission reduction goals. The FARMER program guidelines identify that projects eligible under

APCD RESOLUTION IN THE MATTER OF CONTINUED  
PARTICIPATION IN THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES  
BOARD'S FUNDING AGRICULTURAL REPLACEMENT  
MEASURES FOR EMISSION REDUCTIONS PROGRAM

the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program (Carl Moyer Program) are eligible to be funded under the FARMER program, provided they are engaged in agricultural operations and are considered cost-effective according to the Carl Moyer Program. The FARMER program guidelines also include additional types of agricultural projects that qualify for incentives; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. The District is not required to provide matching funds for the FARMER Program, and the District's implementation of the FARMER Program is supported by administration funds, the amount of which shall be granted to the District consistent with the current FARMER Program Guidelines in effect; and
2. All other provisions of District Board Resolution 21-06 shall remain in full force and effect.

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APCD RESOLUTION IN THE MATTER OF CONTINUED  
PARTICIPATION IN THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES  
BOARD'S FUNDING AGRICULTURAL REPLACEMENT  
MEASURES FOR EMISSION REDUCTIONS PROGRAM

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Air Pollution Control District Board of the Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

**ATTEST:**

AERON ARLIN GENET  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

RACHEL VAN MULLEM  
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: *Sean Stueck*  
Deputy

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

RISK MANAGER

By: *Maria Kahn*  
Risk Manager

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

BETSY M. SCHAFFER, CPA  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

By: *C. Edith*  
Deputy