

SB 375, AB 32, CEQA: The Whole Shebang

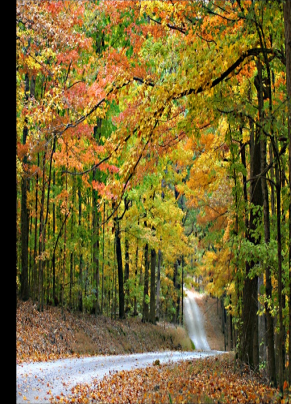
*Panama Bartholomy
Advisor to Commissioner Douglas
California Energy
Commission*

Alameda County & Cities Climate
Forum
1/23/09
San Leandro, CA



Where We Are Going Today

- Context
- AB 32
- CEQA
- SB 375
- Conclusion



Executive Order S-3-05

June 1, 2005

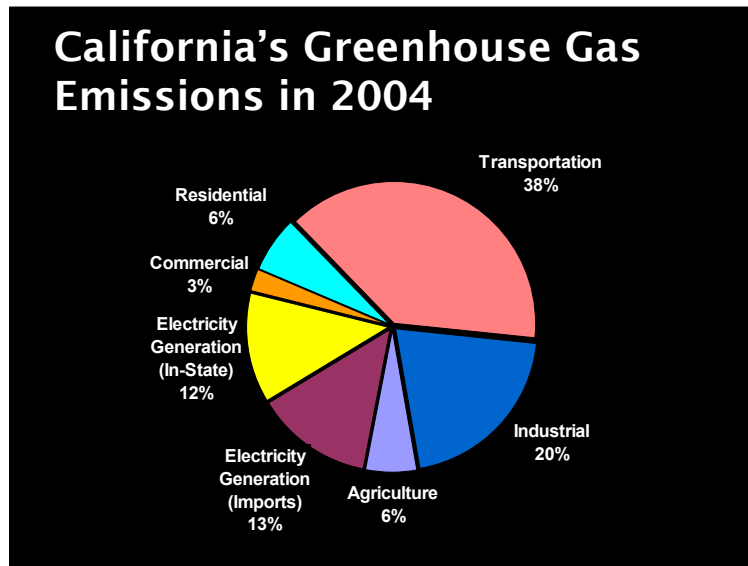
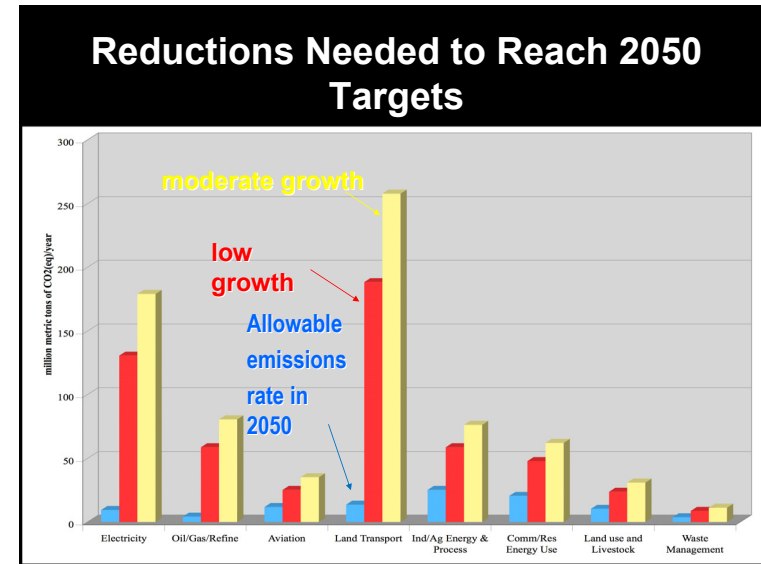
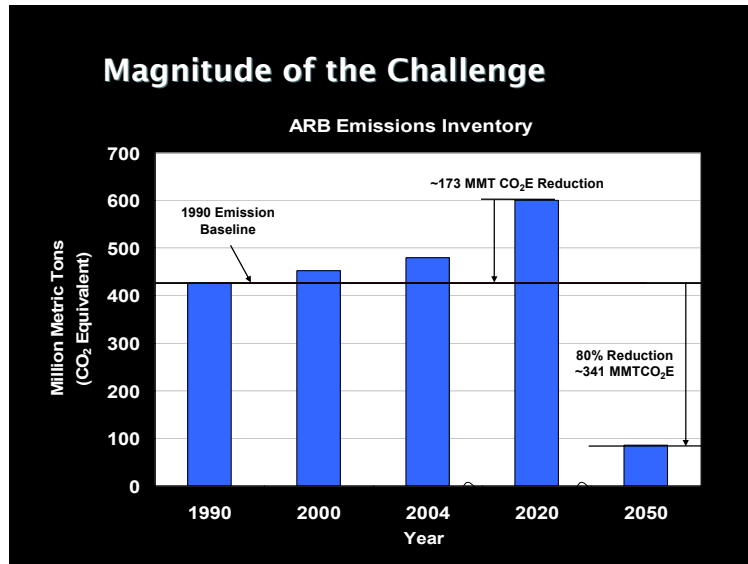
CA will reduce
Greenhouse Gases
to:

- 2000 levels by
2010
- 1990 levels by
2020
- **80% below 1990
levels by 2050**



AB 32: The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006





- ### Recommended Reduction Measures Reductions Counted Towards 2020 Target
- California Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Standards
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Renewables Portfolio Standard (33% by 2020)
 - Low Carbon Fuel Standard
 - Regional Transportation-Related GHG Targets
 - Goods Movement
 - Recycling and Waste (landfill methane)
 - Million Solar Roofs
 - Medium/Heavy Duty Vehicles
 - High Speed Rail
 - Industrial Measures
 - High Global Warming Potential Gas Measures
 - Sustainable Forests
 - Oil and Gas Extraction and Transmission
 - "Additional Reductions"

Local Government Action GHG Reductions

Municipal Operations



Community

- Energy
- Waste and Recycling
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Transportation
- Building Design

9

Local Government Action Climate Leadership

- ARB encourages Locals to adopt emission reduction goals to reduce GHG emissions by 15 percent from current levels by 2020.
- ARB is Building a "Local Government Toolkit"
 - Assist Local Governments with GHG Emission Reductions



10

Local Government Toolkit

One-Stop-Shop

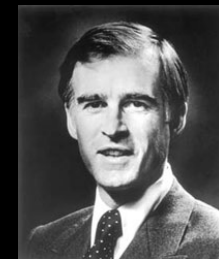
- Best Practices
- Case Studies
- Climate Calculators
- Decision Support Tools
- Financing Strategies
- GHG Inventory Protocols
- Peer-Networking Online Discussion Forum
- Award Programs



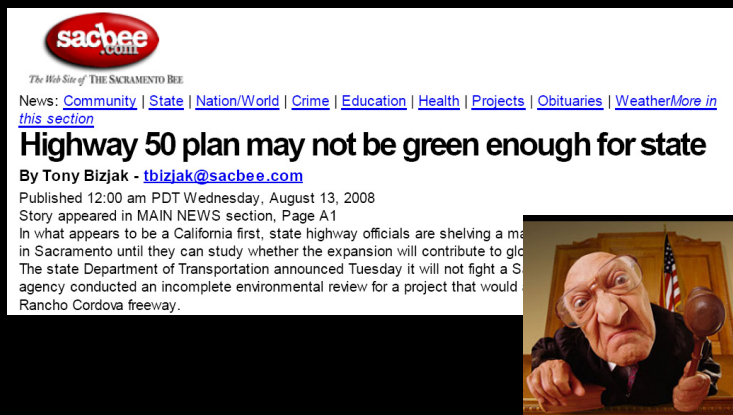
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California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- CEQA requires state and local agencies to identify and reduce significant, negative environmental impacts of land use decisions.
- Climate change a significant, negative impact?
- Attorney General has sent 40+ comment letters to local governments



Meanwhile.....



The screenshot shows a news article from sacbee.com. The title is "Highway 50 plan may not be green enough for state" by Tony Bizjak. The article is dated August 13, 2008. The text indicates that state highway officials are shelving a major expansion project in Sacramento until they can study whether it will contribute to global warming. The state Department of Transportation announced it will not fight a lawsuit if the state agency conducted an incomplete environmental review for a project that would bypass the Rancho Cordova freeway.

CEQA GHG Guidelines

OPR, by July 1, 2009, to prepare... CEQA guidelines for the feasible mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or the effects of greenhouse gas emissions... including, but not limited to, effects associated with transportation or energy consumption. The Resources Agency would be required to certify and adopt those guidelines by January 1, 2010.

OPR Guidance – January 2009

- Estimation of project GHG emissions
 - Model-based or qualitative
- Threshold considerations
- Mitigation considerations
 - Project, plan and offsite
- Programmatic considerations

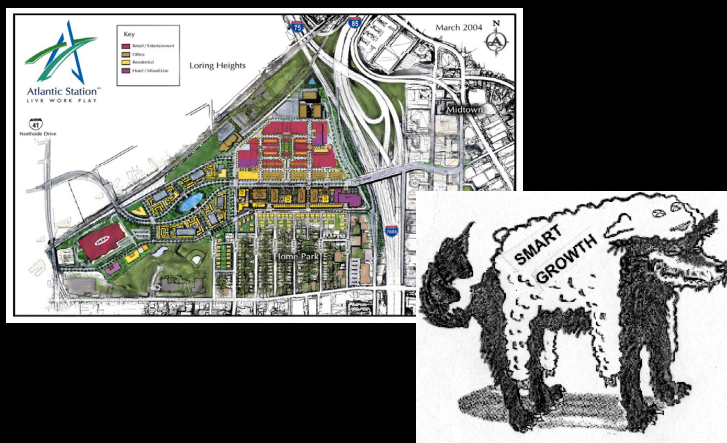
- Workshop January 26

<http://opr.ca.gov>

ARB Recommended Thresholds

- Achieve 30% reduction in combined space heating, cooling and water heating energy compared to CA building code; AND
- Reduce indoor potable water use by at least 20%
- Reduce outdoor potable water use for landscape irrigation by at least 50%
- Demonstrate that average vehicle miles traveled per household per year (VMT/hh-yr) is projected not to exceed 14,000 VMT/hh-yr

SB 375



- SB 375 includes four major components:
 - ARB sets regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets for each of the 18 MPOs in California.
 - As part of their RTP, each MPO must prepare a “sustainable communities strategy” outlining how they are going to meet their GHG reduction target.
 - Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process to be coordinated and integrated with the RTP.
 - Provides CEQA relief for specific in-fill projects.

SB 375 – Regional GHG Targets

- By Sept. 30, 2010, ARB must provide each MPO with regional GHG emission reduction targets for car and light trucks for 2020 and 2035.
- ARB must update these targets at least every eight years. These updates should be consistent with RTP updates.

SB 375 - SCS

- As part of its RTP, each MPO shall prepare a sustainable communities strategy (SCS).
- The SCS will identify how to reduce regional GHG emissions from cars and light trucks taking into account future land use and planned transportation projects.
- MPOs are required to have an extensive public participation effort.

SB 375 – Maintains Local Control

- SB 375 states that neither the SCS or APS can supersede the land use authority of a city or county.
- There are no requirements that a city or county general plan must conform to RTP or SCS

SB 375 – RHNA Process

- Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) the lead in this area.
- City or County must zone for compliance with approved housing element within 3 years.
- Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process to be coordinated and integrated with the RTP.

SB 375 – CEQA Changes

- A residential or mixed-use project which is consistent with the SCS/APS is not required to reference, describe, or discuss (1) growth-inducing impacts; or (2) project specific or cumulative impacts from cars and light-duty truck trips on global warming or the regional transportation network.
- Certain types of infill projects exempt from CEQA completely or partially

Obama-Bucks!!



- Recovery and Reinvestment Act
 - \$3.4 billion for energy efficiency
 - \$3.5 billion for Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants
 - \$6.2 billion for home weatherization
 - \$5-10 billion for energy tax credits and bonds
 - \$500 million for green jobs

Conclusions

- The State needs to reduce GHG emissions by ~30% by 2020 and ~80% by 2050
- The built environment currently accounts for 2/3 of the State's GHG emissions
- Local governments that adopt climate plans early on will be better able to leverage SB 375, Stimulus and CEQA changes
- The State of CA must provide informational, funding and regulatory lead to guide State towards goals

The Real Climate Challenge?

In 2010, three people will leave the workforce for every one that joins
In 2012, it will be four

In 2016, it will be six



Stern Report



- ... the overall costs and risks of climate change...at least 5% of global GDP ...could rise to 20% of GDP or more.
- ... the costs of action.....can be limited to around 1% of global GDP each year.
- ... global emissions will need to be reduced to less than 5 GtCO₂e, **over 80% below current annual emissions**, to maintain stabilization.
- ... **next 10-20 years will have a profound effect on the climate.**



Thank You!

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