

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 9, 2022

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# South Coast AQMD to Host the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice Conference Featuring California Attorney General Rob Bonta and USEPA Region 9 Administrator Martha Guzman

**DIAMOND BAR** – On Wednesday, September 14, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) will host the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice Conference. This year the keynote address will be given by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9 Administrator Martha Guzman, who is focused on achieving progress in making the air, land and water cleaner and safer for the residents of the Pacific Southwest. The conference will also feature California Attorney General Rob Bonta who is committed to fighting environmental injustices throughout California and being a voice for frontline communities.

The event will also feature a plenary session and two breakout sessions. The Plenary Session will highlight efforts of the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program, a statewide community air emissions reduction program. AB 617 Community Steering Committee members from multiple designated communities in our region will discuss lessons learned and strategies for positive change. The breakout sessions include Building a Road to a Zero Emissions Future and Community Air Monitoring. The breakout sessions will run concurrently and moderated by South Coast AQMD staff.

Conference participants can engage and network with public agencies, environmental justice and health-based organizations, academia, and businesses to learn about and collaborate on strategies to reduce air pollution. The conference will also highlight resources to effectively engage stakeholders in air quality and environmental justice issues.

The free, virtual event is open to the public. For more conference details visit: <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/initiatives/environmental-justice/ejcp/environmental-justice-conference">http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/initiatives/environmental-justice/ejcp/environmental-justice-conference</a>.

#### Who:

- Ben Benoit, Chair of South Coast AQMD Governing Board
- Vanessa Delgado, Vice Chair of South Coast AQMD Governing Board
- Gideon Kracov, Governor's Appointee for South Coast AQMD Governing Board

- Rob Bonta, California Attorney General
- Martha Guzman, USEPA Regional Administrator
- Monique N. Hernandez, Senior Manager Florida Cancer Data System, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (Emcee)

### What:

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice Conference
"Our Environment, Our Lives: Collaborating for Clean Air"

### When:

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Where:

The virtual conference can be accessed via Whova, Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook

## **Registration:**

Register here (https://whova.com/portal/registration/envir 202209/).

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.