



California Energy Commission

STAFF REPORT

Localized Health Impacts Report

Addendum 1 for Selected Project Awarded Funding Under Solicitation GFO-23-603 — Implementation of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Blueprints

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California Energy Commission

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The Localized Health Impacts (LHI) Report for Grant Solicitation GFO-23-603 Implementation of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Blueprints was posted April 19, 2024 (CEC-600-2024-043).¹ Project changes have been proposed, which require new location analysis using the same overall approach to assess the localized health impacts.

The GFO-23-603 awardee, Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator, proposes to replace one site location submitted with their project application with a new location in Vernon. The revised project site location is described in Table 1, along with the environmental justice (EJ) indicator analysis outcome.

Awardee	Project Title	Revised Site Location	EJ Indicators for Revised Location
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator	LACI's I-710 Corridor Blueprint Implementation: Drayage Truck Charging in Long Beach	4515 Loma Vista Ave, Vernon CA 90744	Minority, Unemployment

Table 1: Details of Revised Project Location with EJ Indicators

Source: California Energy Commission

Air Quality and EJ Indicators

High-risk community project locations are identified using data from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the U.S. Census Bureau, and other public agencies. The data are analyzed to assign EJ indicators for each project location, as shown in Table 1 with further detail in Table 2. A proposed project location must meet a two-part environmental and demographic standard to be considered in a "high-risk community."

Part 1: Environmental Standard

Communities meet the environmental standard if they have a high concentration of air pollutants. These pollutants include ozone, particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter or less (PM_{2.5}), or particulate matter 10 microns in diameter or less (PM₁₀). The environmental standard uses CARB air-quality-monitoring data on nonattainment status for these pollutants.²

¹ McKinny, Jana. 2024. <u>Localized Health Impacts Report: Projects Awarded Funding Under Solicitation GFO-23-603 — Implementation of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Blueprints</u>. California Energy Commission, Fuels and Transportation Division. Publication Number: CEC-600-2024-043. Accessed October 22, 2024. Available at https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2024/localized-health-impacts-report-projects-awarded-funding-under-solicitation-gfo-5.

² A *nonattainment* area is a geographic area that does not meet state and/or national Ambient Air Quality Standards for a given pollutant. See "<u>Maps of State and Federal Area Designations</u>." California Air Resources Board. Accessed October 22, 2024. Available at https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations.

Part 2: Demographic Standard

Communities meet the demographic standard if they have two or more EJ indicators for minority, age, poverty, and unemployment. Staff defines the EJ indicator thresholds as:

- 1. A minority subset represents more than 30 percent of a given city's population.
- 2. The percentage of people living in a city who are younger than 5 years of age, or who are 65 years of age or older, is more than 1.2 times (more than 20 percent higher than) the state average for those age categories.
- 3. A city's poverty rate exceeds the state average poverty rate.
- 4. The city (or county if city data are unavailable) unemployment rate exceeds the state average unemployment rate.

The demographic standard uses the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey fiveyear estimates³ on race, ethnicity, age, and poverty, and the California Employment Development Department's monthly data⁴ on unemployment. Specifically, this LHI Report Addendum uses city-level⁵ unemployment data. Unemployment data are not seasonally adjusted.

Analysis Results

The proposed site location meets the environmental standard since it is within a nonattainment zone for ozone, PM2.5, or PM10. This finding indicates that there may be existing poor air quality around the proposed project site. The revised project location also meets the demographic standard since it exceeds the threshold for two or more EJ indicators (Table 2). Therefore, the revised site location is in a high-risk community.

In Table 2, a **bold** number followed by an asterisk (*) indicates categories that exceed a given EJ indicator threshold. A city/county name in **bold**, followed by a dagger (†), indicates a high-risk community.

³ American Community Survey codes DP05 and S1701 were used to find data. See "<u>Explore Census Data</u>." U.S. Census Bureau. Accessed October 22, 2024. Available at https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

⁴ Overview page with data from most recent and previous months: "<u>Unemployment Rate and Labor Force</u>." Employment Development Department. Accessed October 22, 2024. Available at https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/data/unemployment-and-labor-force.html.

⁵ Most recent data only: "<u>Monthly Labor Force Data for Cities and Census Designated Places (CDP)</u>." Employment Development Department. Accessed October 22, 2024. Available at https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/allsubs.xls.

Site Location	American Indian and Alaska Native (2022)	Asian (2022)	Black or African American (2022)	Hispanic or Latino (Any Race) (2022)	Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (2022)	Under 5 Years of Age (2022)	65 Years of Age and Over (2022)	Below Poverty Level (2022)	Unemploy- ment (September 2024)
California	1.0%	15.1%	5.6%	39.7%	0.4%	5.7%	14.9%	12.1%	5.3%
EJ Indicator Threshold	30.0%	30.0%	30.0%	30.0%	30.0%	6.8%	17.9%	12.1%	5.3%
Vernon†	0.0%	0.3%	2.4%	91.5%*	0.3%	5.2%	16.7%	0.3%	6.9%*

Table 2: EJ Indicators by Project Location City Demographic

Sources: California Energy Commission, Employment Development Department, and U.S. Census Bureau

Location Analysis Summary

The proposed project location was assessed according to the original localized health impacts method. The assessment shows the proposed project location is within a high-risk community. This finding indicates the community near the proposed project location is at a higher risk of adverse health effects from pollution. However, staff does not anticipate a significant increase in local pollutants resulting from the project, and staff's analysis found no indication that there would be adverse community health impacts. Moreover, a net benefit from the proposed electric vehicle charging project may be realized for the surrounding community due to associated reductions in harmful criteria air pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gas emissions.

Public Comment

As provided by the California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Section 2343, a 30-day public review period applies to this LHI Report Addendum from the date it is posted on the CEC website. The <u>original posting date for this report</u> is at https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/clean-transportation-program/localized-health-impacts-reports.

The CEC encourages comments by email. Please include your name or your organization's name in the name of the file. Send comments in either Microsoft® Word format (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® format (.pdf) to <u>FTD@energy.ca.gov</u>.

A hard copy can be mailed to:

California Energy Commission Fuels and Transportation Division 715 P Street, MS-44 Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments will become part of the public record and may be posted to the Internet. News media should direct inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at 916-654-4989 or by email at <u>mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov</u>.