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Mayor, Paradise

Superior Court of California
County of Butte
AUG 30 2018
Kimberly Flemer, Clerk
Deputy
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Air Pollution Control Officer
(530) 332-9400
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August 27, 2018

The Honorable Judge Tamara L. Mosbarger, Presiding Judge
c/o Court Administration
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965

Re: 2017-2018 Final Report of the Butte County Grand Jury
Response of the Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board

Dear Judge Mosbarger:

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933.05, this letter constitutes the response of the Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board to the 2017-2018 Final Report of the Butte County Grand Jury. In considering this response, we have reviewed the response of our Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) dated July 9, 2018, which is attached for reference.

FINDINGS

Finding F1: Butte County air quality has improved as a result of regulations adopted by the BCAQMD Board.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. Please also refer to the response of our APCO.

Finding F2: Air quality is impacted by influences from outside the County.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding F3: County residents have contributed to improved air quality by their participation and support of programs management by the BCAQMD.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding F4: Inconsistent funding streams makes it difficult to hire additional staff.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding F5: Wood smoke is more polluting to Butte County air than all motor vehicle emissions combined.

Response: The respondent agrees in part with this finding. Please refer to the response of our APCO.

Finding F6: Funding for the wood burning stove replacement program will resume in 2018.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. Please also refer to the response of our APCO.

Finding F7: Community education, outreach, and a very user-friendly website, promotes public understanding and involvement with BCAQMD.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

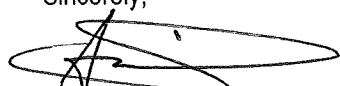
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation R1: Develop a plan to meet additional staffing needs by December 31, 2018.

Response: As our APCO stated in his response, staffing is dependent upon budget and availability of funding. This is evaluated each year during the annual budget process, which commences early in the calendar year. It is the policy of this Board that the District be fiscally independent from Butte County and the incorporated cities. The District budget is based on fees and grants. During this current fiscal year, the District hired temporary staff to assist with the new grant programs, including the wood burning stove replacement program referenced in the Grand Jury report. This was funded through the grant programs. On-going staffing levels will be evaluated during the upcoming budget process for FY 2019-2020, which will commence early 2019. Consequently, due to the budget process, it is not possible to develop a viable plan by December 31, 2018.

On behalf of our Board, I would like to thank the 2017-2018 Grand Jury for the review conducted of the District program and the final report. Please do not hesitate to contact our APCO if you have any questions regarding this response.

Sincerely,



Andrew Coolidge, Chair
Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board

Attachment: Response of the Butte County Air Pollution Control Officer dated July 9, 2018

