

From: [Morrison, David](#)
To: [Hade, Jason](#); ["Erik de Kok"](#); [Honey Walters](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on Climate Action Plan from Napa Climate NOW!
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:10:19 PM

From: Chris Benz [mailto:christinabbenz@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 2:54 PM
To: Morrison, David; Jeri Gill; Anne Cottrell; Michael Basayne; Terry Scott; Joelle Gallagher
Subject: Comments on Climate Action Plan from Napa Climate NOW!

Please accept the following comments on the Final Draft of the Napa County Climate Action Plan on behalf of Napa Climate NOW!

The CAP doesn't provide a path for meaningful emissions reductions because:

1. **It isn't based on current climate science.**

- The CAP accounting method was selected "to maintain consistency with latest statewide inventory (for 2015) prepared by California Air Resources Board (CARB)."
- CARB has updated accounting for its Short-Lived Climate Pollutant (SLCP) Reduction Strategy, going into effect January 2018 (SB 1383). (See https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/shortlived/meetings/03142017/final_slcp_report.pdf)
- The SLCP Strategy is based on the current scientific understanding (IPCC Assessment Report 5, 2013-14) that in order to slow global warming, reducing SLCP emissions will be the most productive strategy.
- Of particular importance is its focus on black carbon, now recognized as one of the four most powerful climate pollutants driving global warming. Napa is a source of black carbon pollution from diesel engines, agricultural burning, etc.
- Additionally, tropospheric ozone is another major contributor to climate change. This short-lived climate pollutant should also be addressed.
- Let's align Napa's CAP with the latest statewide and regional plans, and the state of climate science. (See Bay Area Air Quality Management District's 2017 Bay Area Clean Air Plan: Spare the Air and Cool the Climate at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/air-quality-plans/current-plans>)

2. **Its three top measures for reducing emissions are not seen as feasible by community stakeholders.**

- **Measure BE-6:** Replacement of residential and commercial gas water heaters with electric or alternatively-powered units.

North Bay Association of Realtors (NorBAR) comments: "NorBAR is

concerned that, given the potential time delays and costs of adding an electric water heater, homeowners will forgo permits and have the standard water heater installed.”

- **Measure AG-3:** Replacement of diesel and gas powered farm equipment with electric or alternatively-fueled units.

Napa Valley Grapegrowers comment: “Many vineyards have no other need for being serviced by PG&E. In most cases, use of this service will be infrequent, while still incurring extremely high standby costs. This measure seems growth inducing and a poor use of resources.”

- **Measure OR-2:** Replacing diesel or gas with alternative fuels in recreational watercraft.

Feasible??? How much time will be spent regulating and enforcing this?!?!

Napa needs and deserves a CAP that focuses on the following:

Reduction of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone, and hydrofluorocarbons) with measures such as the following:

- Reduce methane due to solid waste by installing methane capture systems at food and pomace composting sites.
- Reduce methane due to wastewater treatment by installing anaerobic digesters at wastewater treatment plants in American Canyon, St. Helena, and Calistoga.
- Reduce vehicle emissions for hauling winery wastewater by expanding Napa Sanitation plant to handle this wastewater and capturing methane generated (waste-to-energy).
- Reduce black carbon through incentivizing cleaner diesel engines and alternatives to traditional ag burning methods.
- Note: The CAP does contain appropriate measures for reducing hydrofluorocarbons (Measures HG-1 and HG-2). We need an accurate inventory of these emissions.

Decarbonizing power and transportation

- The proposed CAP contains several measures toward this goal (BE-9, BE-10, BE-11, TR-13)

Reducing and mitigating loss of Carbon Sequestration during land use change in a realistic way

- Measure LU-1’s target of preserving 30% of existing woodlands was “based on feasibility assessments made by county staff.” This target is far too low.
- Instead, let’s accurately account for carbon sequestration, then properly

mitigate its loss (via replants, carbon farming practices, the use of a carbon “tax”, etc.).

The proposed County Climate Action plan will allow the county to check off a General Plan “to do” item—and that’s all. Let’s not waste our Supervisors’ time and tax dollars enacting measures that may be cost-prohibitive, unenforceable, and won’t make a difference in reducing global warming. Let’s not make residents and businesses pay for measures that won’t make a difference.

We are Napa—we don’t need to check off a box; we need to do what we’re good at—thinking outside the box—and put in place REAL solutions to global warming.

Thank you for your consideration,
Chris Benz
Napa Climate NOW! Co-Chair
June 28, 2017

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From: [Morrison, David](#)
To: [Hade, Jason](#); "Erik de Kok"
Subject: FW: CAP
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:23:37 AM

From: Bandy, Katy
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:15 AM
To: Morrison, David
Subject: CAP

Hello, I am a Napa County citizen and I would like to share my comments on the CAP as I will be unable to attend the Planning Commission meeting on 7/5/17. The protection of our natural environment should be our primary concern as humans on this planet with a will to survive, and while we may not have a say in what other parts of the nation/world do, we can influence and change things right here at home. We can lead the way into the future rather than dragging our feet.

What we know is that reducing Short Lived Climate Pollutants is the most effective strategy for short term and immediate changes. Prioritizing water heater replacement, replacing diesel and gas farm equipment with electric, replacing diesel or gas in recreational vehicles should be an active part of the NC CAP. My understanding is also that the current CAP does not use updated/current measurements for SLCPs meaning that it is working off of old data. Napa County should be using cutting edge information to inform its' CAP. Why not match those used by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District? Also we need to be implementing strategies to measure Napa County SLCPs so that we can apply for funding for mitigation in the future.

My understanding is also that your assessment of woodland removal is based on opinions of county staff, and not accurate measurements of carbon sequestration and how to mitigate for its loss. I understand the review period for our CAP is every two years, and I highly believe it should be yearly to account for the urgency needed to slow and turn around our environmental crisis.

I understand that procrastination on urgent matters is a human tendency. But with focused thought and commitment to acting without hesitation, we can make changes right here at home.

Protecting our environments, to me, is the most important area of focus. Please consider the opinions of this constituent in your meeting on 7/5/17.

Sincerely,

Katy Bandy LCSW

Adult Therapy Services
Napa County Mental Health Division
2751 Napa Valley Corporate Dr. Bldg. A
Napa, CA 94559
Direct: (707) 259-8707

Fax: (707)259-8721

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**2751 Napa Valley Corporate Drive
Napa, CA 94558**

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From: Morrison, David
To: [Hade, Jason: "Erik de Kok"](mailto:Hade, Jason: 'Erik de Kok')
Subject: FW: Napa Climate Action Plan
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:47:39 PM

From: Lori Stelling [mailto:lori.stelling@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:28 PM
To: Morrison, David
Subject: Napa Climate Action Plan

Dear Commissioner Morrison,

My name is Lori Stelling, I am a resident from District 3, and I am writing because I am deeply concerned about climate change and the long-term effect pollution in Napa County may have on the health of my family, neighbors and friends, as well as the Earth, trees, animals and waterways of this valley. I will be out of the state Wed, July 5th and unable to attend the Planning Commission Meeting, so I am taking a moment, now, to share my concerns about Napa County's Climate Action Plan.

I have recently learned that a new understanding of global warming is taking hold on international, state and regional levels, leading to approaches that focus on reducing emissions of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs), and that we have the science and technology needed to address this need now. I support the analysis and recommendations of Chris Benz of NCN! and V2050 as to how to improve Napa County's CAP and strongly urge you to ensure that the CAP includes: reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone, and hydrofluorocarbons), decarbonizing power and transportation, and reducing and mitigating loss of Carbon Sequestration during land use change in a realistic way.

It is my view that Napa County has the dedicated community members, knowledge and resources available to become a county that takes the lead on climate change and serves as an example for other counties around the world. Let Napa be an example to the rest of the state and the nation as to how to reduce SLCPs and clean up our traffic, agricultural processes, air and water. Let Napa be an example of how to create tourism that is eco-friendly and doesn't backlog our entire valley with cars that pollute our air. Let Napa be an example of how to shift from being a county with some of the highest cancer rates in the state of California to a county low on the list.

Once again, from what I am understanding, the good news is that we DO have the science, the technology and the capability to turn climate change around. The first step is to wake people up out of their feelings of powerlessness and/or denial around climate change, right here at home in Napa County.

I strongly urge you to create a CAP that takes a public stand on climate change, educates your colleagues, the agricultural community, and the public about SLCPs and moves toward real solutions that address global warming NOW, right here in Napa County. Let us not pretend that the effects of global warming are something that will happen in the far-off future but open our eyes to the truth: climate change is here NOW and requires action NOW; pollution is here NOW and requires action NOW. I urge you to take action and create a CAP that will truly make a difference.

Sincerely,

Lori Stelling

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June 30, 2017

Attention: Jason R. Hade, AICP, Planner III
Napa County Planning, Building & Environmental Services Department
1195 Third Street, Suite 210, Napa, California
(707) 259-8757
jason.hade@countyofnapa.org

Dear Mr. Hade,

On behalf of 700 grower and vineyard manager members, the Napa Valley Grapegrowers appreciates the County of Napa's thoughtful response to comments submitted on March 10, 2017 regarding the proposed Climate Action Plan (CAP) and continued willingness to address questions, explain the program, and solicit feedback. NVG's mission 'to preserve and promote Napa Valley's world-class vineyards' makes us a committed partner in protecting Napa Valley's environmental assets. As noted in our March 10 letter, we understand the importance of developing a CAP that is both feasible and effective at preserving our local environment, to the benefit of the community at large as well as to the agricultural industry.

NVG continues to support the County's goals to reduce agriculture-related emissions and adhere to standards regulated at the State level. However, after analyzing the revisions and responses to comments, we believe that considerably more clarification and consideration is needed prior to adopting the proposed CAP. **As such, NVG would like to request an extension to properly assess and work with the County to address significant concerns. In particular, we believe more time is needed to understand newly introduced language including the Appendix D CAP Consistency Checklist and the definition of "voluntary". If this request cannot be met prior to the upcoming Planning Commission review, we strongly urge the County to consider delaying the Board of Supervisors review, tentatively scheduled for August.**

Please note that the redlined version of the 268-page CAP was only made available to the public on June 21, which has provided key stakeholders with less than two weeks to adequately review revisions prior to the upcoming Planning Commission Meeting this coming Wednesday, July 5. This tight timeline is compounded by the federal holiday in between now and then. NVG is currently in the process of developing a more comprehensive comment letter on the revisions, which we will submit to the County in advance of Wednesday's meeting, based on review of the redlined revisions. However, we are concerned about the lead time available for presenting this feedback to Planning Commissioners.

Thank you for considering this request, as we all work together to develop a robust CAP for all of Napa County.

Sincerely,

Garrett Buckland
President, Napa Valley Grapegrowers

cc: Director David Morrison, Napa County Department of PBES