



CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

FRIDAY REVIEW

LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL UPDATE

June 7, 2019

Air Quality

Comments on the Air Resources Board's (ARB) revised regulations that will require annual emissions reporting of criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminants for many facilities, including farms and agricultural processing businesses are due today. These new reporting requirements are due to the passage of [AB 617](#), (C. Garcia) last year. ARB released the proposal last year and Farm Bureau provided comments. In March, ARB released draft revisions to the proposed regulations that vastly expanded the scope of facilities that would be required to report.

ARB released formal revisions to the regulations to slightly narrow the scope of facilities subject to the new reporting requirements, for example by specifically excluding stationary agricultural engines used for irrigation from being subject to the new reporting requirements. However, the proposed regulations will still require any permitted facility (other than those permitted only for their agricultural irrigation engines) that emits more than 4 tons per year of a criteria pollutant to report their emissions annually. Confined livestock facilities and agricultural processing facilities are the most likely to be impacted by the proposed regulations.

Farm Bureau has commented, participated in workshops, and met with ARB staff to express our concerns and potential improvements that would limit impacts to agricultural facilities.

Staff contact: Noelle Cremers at (916) 446-4647 or ncremers@cfbf.com.

Food Safety

The Department of Food and Agriculture and UC Davis are co-hosting a workshop titled "California Good Ag Neighbors" on June 13th from 8:30-4pm to discuss collaborative methods of ensuring food safety between fresh produce growers and livestock operations. The event will take place at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center, 2101 E. Earhart Avenue in Stockton, CA. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Healthy Soils

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has announced it awarded 217 projects totaling approximately \$12.48 million for the Healthy Soils Program. This program encourages farmers and ranchers to implement practices that reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases, sequesters carbon in soils and improves soil health. The \$12.48 million is distributed between direct farmer incentives (194 projects totaling \$8.7 million in funding across 45 counties) and on-farm demonstration projects (23 projects totaling \$3.8 million in funding across 16 counties). *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Land Use

The Department of Conservation is hosting a Brown Bag Talk on June 11th from 12-1pm featuring Keali'i Bright, Patrick Hennesy, Farl Grundy III, and Virginia Jameson, all of whom are with the Department's Division of Land Resource Protection. The Talk will be on California farmland preservation and management. CFBF staff will be in attendance and interested parties are welcome to join in person at 801 K Street, Sacramento, in the John Muir Conference Room. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cbf.com or 916-446-4647.*