



CENTER ON  
RACE, POVERTY  
& THE ENVIRONMENT



## San Joaquin Valley's AB 617 Environmental Justice Steering Committee

### *First-Round Community Nominations*

June 6th, 2018

#### **Authors include:**

Californians for Pesticide Reform  
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Stockton  
Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment  
Central California Asthma Collaborative  
Central California Environmental Justice Network  
Central Valley Air Quality Coalition  
Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño  
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice  
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability  
Madera Coalition for Community Justice  
Tulare County - Coalition Advocating for Pesticide Safety  
Valley Improvement Projects  
Valley Latino Environmental Advancement Project

#### **Compiled by:**

Genevieve Gale, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition

## *Table of Contents*

---

Introduction	3
First-Round Communities	4
Scoring Criteria	7
Prioritized List of Communities	9
Community Nomination Narratives	
San Joaquin County	10
Stanislaus County	11
Merced County	13
Madera County	18
Fresno County	20
Kings County	29
Tulare County	30
Kern County	41
Appendices	
Oil & Gas Community Scoring Matrix and Prioritized List	
Urban Community Scoring Matrix and Prioritized List	
Rural Community Scoring Matrix and Prioritized List	

## Introduction

---

In July of 2017, the Governor and Legislature of the State of California passed Assembly Bill (AB) 617. The law requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and local air districts to implement community emissions reduction programs in communities experiencing high cumulative air pollution exposure burdens, to deploy community air monitoring in select communities, and to make other changes regarding the measurement and control of air pollution. The law mandates CARB select the first round of communities for the preparation of emissions reduction and air monitoring programs by October 1st, 2018.

In February of 2018, the San Joaquin Valley Environmental Justice Collaborative - comprised of the Central California Environmental Justice Network, the Central California Asthma Collaborative and the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition - convened a group of Environmental Justice (EJ) advocates from across the Valley to discuss the passing of the new law. The group decided to form the “San Joaquin Valley AB 617 EJ Steering Committee,” with the goals of increasing coordination and consultation among EJ partners in the Valley around the development of AB 617 programs.

In advance of October 1st, the Committee developed the following report to help inform CARB’s selection of AB 617 communities. The report outlines the Committee’s community selection process and final prioritized list of communities nominated for the preparation of both emission reduction and air monitoring plans. The Committee appreciates the opportunity to provide the following community nominations.

San Joaquin Valley EJ Steering Committee	
Acronym	Environmental Justice Organization
Catholic Charities	Catholic Charities – Diocese of Stockton
CVAQ	Central Valley Air Quality Coalition
VIP	Valley Improvement Project
CCAC	Central California Asthma Collaborative
BHC	Building Healthy Communities
LCJA	Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
CBDIO	Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño
Madera Coalition	Madera Coalition for Community Justice
Valley LEAP	Valley Latino Environmental Advancement Project
CPR	Californians for Pesticide Reform
Greenaction	Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
TC-CAPS	Tulare County – Coalition Advocating for Pesticide Safety
El Pueblo	El Pueblo para el Aire y Agua Limpia de Kettleman City
CCEJN	Central California Environmental Justice Network
CRPE	Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment

## First-Round Communities

---

To nominate communities in the San Joaquin Valley for AB 617 purposes, the Valley's EJ Steering Committee started with a list of environmental justice communities that have been historically organized. These include most (but not all) communities in the Valley that:

- (1) have been overburdened with pollution; and
- (2) have developed a base of active residents and community advocates.

The list, below, contains many small unincorporated communities, many urban neighborhoods surrounded by industry, and many isolated rural communities that lack basic services and representation. All communities share a heavy burden of pollution and are considered the most disadvantaged in the state. However, all communities also have a rich and inspirational history of community organizing and are filled with strong and passionate individuals.

County	Community	Community Type	Lead Organization	Air Monitoring	Emission Reduction
<b>San Joaquin</b>	The Port of Stockton	Urban	Catholic Charities and CVAQ	<b>X</b>	
<b>Stanislaus</b>	Southwest Modesto	Urban	VIP and CVAQ	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	West Stanislaus County	Rural	VIP and CVAQ	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Merced</b>	Planada	Rural	CCAC and LCJA	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	Le Grand	Rural	CCAC and BHC	<b>X</b>	
	Delhi	Rural	LCJA	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	Livingston	Rural	CBDIO	<b>X</b>	
	South Merced	Urban	LCJA	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Madera</b>	Eastin Arcola & Ripperdan	Rural	Madera Coalition	<b>X</b>	
	Parkwood	Rural	Madera Coalition	<b>X</b>	
	Parksdale	Rural	Madera Coalition	<b>X</b>	
	Parkwood/ South Madera	Urban	Madera Coalition, CBDIO	<b>X</b>	
	Fairmead	Rural	LCJA	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

	La Vina	Rural	LCJA	X	X
<b>Fresno</b>	Southcentral Fresno	Urban	CVAQ, LCJA and CCEJN	X	X
	Selma	Urban & Rural	CCAC	X	
	“The West Side” (Huron, Avenal and Coalinga)	Rural	Valley LEAP, CBDIO	X	X
	Reedley	Rural & Urban	CPR & CCEJN	X	X
	San Joaquin	Rural	CCEJN, CPR & TC-CAPS		X
	Orange Cove	Rural	CCEJN, CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
	Lanare	Rural	LCJA	X	X
<b>Kings</b>	Kettleman City	Rural and Urban	Greenaction and El Pueblo para el Aire y Agua Limpia de Kettleman City	X	X
<b>Tulare</b>	Goshen	Rural	CCAC	X	
	Plainview	Rural	CCAC, CPR & TC-CAPS	X	
	Pixley	Rural	CCAC	X	
	Lindsay	Rural	CPR & TC-CAPS		X
	Ivanhoe	Rural	CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
	Woodville	Rural	CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
	Matheny Tract	Rural	LCJA	X	X
	Farmersville	Rural	CBDIO, CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
	Exeter	Rural	CBDIO, CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
	Tooleville	Rural	LCJA, CPR & TC-CAPS	X	X
<b>Kern</b>	Lamont	Rural and Oil & Gas	CCEJN, CRPE and CPR	X	X

	Arvin	Rural and Oil & Gas	CCEJN, CRPE and CPR	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	Lost Hills	Rural and Oil & Gas	CCEJN & CRPE	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	Shafter	Rural and Oil & Gas	CCEJN, CRPE and CPR	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	Delano	Urban & Rural	CCEJN, CRPE and CPR	<b>X</b>	
	Oildale	Rural and Oil & Gas	CCEJN & CRPE	<b>X</b>	
	Wasco	Rural and Oil & Gas	CRPE & CCEJN	<b>X</b>	
	Buttonwillow	Rural and Oil & Gas	CRPE	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

Note: Not all EJ communities are included in this list. Steering Committee membership is not exhaustive of all community groups working on AB 617 in the Valley. Additional first-round communities may be nominated by the Steering Committee or Steering Committee members in the future. As the 617 program continues, the Steering Committee plans to nominate more communities, especially those that lack a history of community organizing.

## Scoring Criteria

After compiling a list of historical EJ communities, the Steering Committee set out to prioritize the list. To start, communities were separated into three main categories: urban, rural and oil & gas. The Steering Committee wanted to ensure each type of Valley community, and their specific needs, was addressed in the 617 program.

Next, the most overburdened communities within each category were prioritized using unique scoring criteria. The urban criteria focused on measures of industrial pollution, the rural criteria focused on pesticides and animal agriculture, and the oil and gas criteria focused on toxics and proximity to active oil wells. All were ranked by population characteristics, including asthma rates, poverty, low birth weight and linguistic isolation.

Additionally, communities were scored on cumulative levels of pollution and historical community organizing. Cumulative pollution was captured by the community's CalEnviroScreen Pollution Burden score which includes multiple measures of air and water contamination. Historical organizing took into account existing organizational capacity for advocacy and organizing work, as well as historical organizing of residents. Communities that have an organized base of community residents that have met regularly for years to discuss and work on environmental justice issues rank higher than communities that

### RURAL SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring Criteria	Ratio	CalEnviroScreen Indicators Used	
CalEnviroScreen Indicators	50%	Pollution (50%)	Population (50%)
Cuml. Pollution	15%	Ozone, PM2.5, Pesticides and Toxic Releases	Asthma, Linguistic Isolation, Low Birth Weight and Poverty
Proximity to Dairies	15%		
Historical Community Organizing	20%		

### URBAN SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring Criteria	Ratio	CalEnviroScreen Indicators Used	
CalEnviroScreen Indicators	50%	Pollution (50%)	Population (50%)
Cuml. Pollution	30%	Ozone, PM2.5, Traffic, Diesel, Toxic Releases, Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste	Asthma, Cardiovascular Rate, Low Birth Weight, Poverty and Linguistic Isolation
Historical Community Organizing	20%		

### OIL & GAS SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring Criteria	Ratio	CalEnviroScreen Indicators Used	
CalEnviroScreen Indicators	50%	Pollution (50%)	Population (50%)
Cuml. Pollution	15%	Ozone, PM2.5, Pesticides and Toxic Releases	Asthma, Linguistic Isolation, Low Birth Weight and Poverty
Proximity to Active Oil Fields	15%		
Historical Community Organizing	20%		

have one or two active advocates, or none at all. The logic behind this was to ensure first-round 617 communities are prepared to engage in and take advantage of 617 planning processes the moment communities are announced by CARB. As the 617 program continues, the EJ Steering Committee plans for historical organizing not to play as large a role in the scoring criteria. Rather, the Committee will focus future organizing efforts in areas that display the most need.

## **Community Feedback**

The draft scoring criteria was shared with community members from across the Valley for feedback. Residents from both rural and urban communities agreed with the existing measures, suggested to remove a measure (which was removed), and suggested various additional indicators to create a more accurate picture of the environmental and health conditions in the San Joaquin Valley. These additional indicator recommendations include:

- Number of asthma specialty doctors;
- Cancer;
- Renal failure;
- Valley Fever; and
- Access to healthcare.

Unfortunately, much of this data was not available at the census-tract or community-level. Cancer rate data, for example, is made available by the National Cancer Institute, but only at the county level. County-level data to prioritize communities for AB 617 does not consider the stark contrasts of environmental pollution and socioeconomic factors within counties, and therefore does not reflect the conditions in the community itself. While each of the counties in the San Joaquin Valley may individually track and record Valley Fever cases, we were not able to find a consistent data source across all counties, and again, were unable to find community-level data.

Additionally, the number of asthma specialty doctors in a given community is not made readily available to the public, so we were unable to use this data to prioritize communities. Access to healthcare is measured and recorded by the federal government through Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Areas/Populations (MUA/Ps). However, we could not use this information to inform our community prioritization process because the data was inconsistent - some communities were located in scored areas while others were not.

## Prioritized List of Communities

---

The scoring matrices and the full prioritized lists can be found in the appendices. The abbreviated prioritized list of communities can be found below.

	Urban	Rural	Oil & Gas
1	South-Central Fresno	Shafter	
2	South Madera / Parkwood	Matheny Tract	Lamont
3	Port of Stockton	Lamont	Lost Hills, Kettleman City (tie)
4	Kettleman City, South Merced (tie)	Lanare	Arvin
5	South and West Modesto	Delhi	Buttonwillow
6	Delano	Delano, Planada (tie)	The West Side (Huron, Coalinga, Avenal)
7	Selma	Parkwood, Fairmead (tie)	Wasco
8	Reedley	Buttonwillow	West Stanislaus County
9		Arvin	
10		Lindsay	

# Community Nomination Narratives

## *Port of Stockton*

---

*Catholic Charities and CVAQ nominates the Port of Stockton for community air monitors.*

Community location: The Port of Stockton is located southwest of downtown Stockton. This community's census tract is bordered by Interstate-5 (I-5) to the east, the San Joaquin River to the north and west, and West 8th Street to the south. There are multiple railroad lines within, and it is close to the Ort J. Lofthus Freeway and Charter Way.

Description of the community: The Port, according to CalEnviroScreen, has a population of approximately 6,692 with a 100% Pollution Burden percentile and a 96 to 100% Population Characteristics percentile. There is one elementary school four blocks from Best Logistics, Inc., and there are two elementary schools just below the census tract, and a high school just outside the census tract on the other side of I-5. The Port is a major industrial location, consisting of railroads, the seaport, factories, and warehouses, with homes and neighborhoods to the north, east, and south. According to CalEnviroScreen, the Port has a higher than 96% percentile for cleanups, groundwater threats, impaired water, solid waste, asthma, and cardiovascular rate. The Port also has a high percentile burden for education, poverty, and housing burden. The population is largely Hispanic at 57%, followed by Asian-American at 21%, African-American at 13% and White at 6%. The tract contains 19% children under age 10.

Air pollution concern: The Port contains and is surrounded by heavy industrial uses. Other industries include: CenCal Recycling, Waste Management, Schuff Steel Pacific, JC Trucking, DTE Energy (a biomass incinerator), Lineage Logistics (a cold storage distribution center), as well as other distribution centers, manufacturers, and warehouses. All this industry contributes to high levels of PM 2.5, diesel, and traffic, which in turn contribute to the high health concerns such as asthma, cardiovascular issues, and impaired water and groundwater threats.

## *West Stanislaus*

---

*Valley Improvement Projects (VIP) and CVAQ nominates the southwest areas of the city of Modesto for an emission reduction plan, the rural west side of Stanislaus County for an emission reduction plan, and both the urban and rural areas for the development of a county-wide air monitoring campaign.*

### *Southwest Modesto and the Airport Neighborhood*

Community location: This community encompasses the urban areas of Southwest Modesto and the bordering unincorporated county pockets. Its boundaries are, roughly, Hwy 132 (Maze Blvd/Yosemite Blvd) to the North, Carpenter Road to the West, Mitchell Road to the East, and Hatch Road to the South. It includes the neighborhoods of Downtown Modesto, West Modesto, South Modesto (Bystrom/Shackelford/Bret Harte), and the Airport Neighborhood.

Description of the community: This community has a population of approximately 40,000 people throughout its urban neighborhoods. Virtually all of the census tracts that compose this community are ranked in the 96-100th percentile in CalEnviroScreen. Their “Pollution Burden” scores range from the 79th to 99th percentile and their “Population Characteristics Burden” scores range from the 82nd to 100th percentile. They rank especially high, mostly in the 90th percentile range, in Education, Linguistic Isolation, Poverty, Unemployment, and Housing Burden. Their populations range from 50-80% “Hispanic.”

Air pollution concern: This community has a lot of diesel truck traffic and particulate matter emissions from industrial facilities, a railroad, Hwy 99, the downtown transportation hub, and traffic from the major thoroughfares. The Airport Neighborhood has the nearby airport, a glass manufacturing plant, and a major diesel truck route for Gallo wine/glass and various canneries along Yosemite Boulevard to Hwy 99. The communities rank especially high, mostly in the 90th percentile range, for Asthma and Cardiovascular rate.

### *West Stanislaus County: Grayson, Patterson, Crows Landing*

Community location: This community is located in the rural, southwest region of Stanislaus County. Its boundaries are Crows Landing Road to the East, Hwy 132 to the North, Interstate 5 to the West and the Stanislaus-Merced County line to the South. It includes the towns of Westley,

Grayson, Patterson, Crows Landing, and Newman along Hwy 33 as well as the surrounding unincorporated rural areas.

Description of the community: This community has a population of approximately 25,000 throughout its rural areas. Its five different census tracts range from 76-95th percentile in CalEnviroScreen. Their “Pollution Burden” scores range from the 75th to the 97th percentile and their “Population Characteristics Burden” scores range from the 68th to the 83rd percentile, including mostly in the 90th percentile range in Education, Linguistic Isolation, Poverty, and Unemployment. It is 50-75% “Hispanic” and much of the rural areas are historically farmworker communities.

Air pollution concern: The area ranks high in ozone, PM, diesel, and pesticides. These rural areas are especially high in pesticides and PM. Near Patterson and Crows Landing there is a trash incinerator that emits NOx and toxic metals such as dioxin and lead. Interstate 5, Hwy 33, the county landfill, agricultural-related emissions (pumps, trucks, tractors, dust, pesticides), and a growing number of large distribution centers that bring heavy diesel truck traffic to the area are also of major concern.

## *Livingston*

---

*Livingston is being nominated for community air monitors.*

Community location: Livingston is a city in Merced County approximately 16 miles north of the City of Merced and 7 miles northwest of Atwater. Livingston's total area is 3.7 square miles, including undeveloped farmland annexed in anticipation of future growth.

Description of the community:

According to the 2010 census, the city population was 13,058 - up from 10,473 at the 2000 census. The racial makeup of Livingston in the 2010 census was 40.3% White, 2.7% Native American; 17.0% Asian, 34.8% from other races, 4.2% from two or more races and 0.8% African American; 73.1% were Hispanic or Latino of any race. Most of the recent immigrants are from Mexico, Central America, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and the Punjab. It is important to acknowledge that among Mexican immigrants, Livingston has a significant population of indigenous immigrants (primarily from the Mexican state of Oaxaca) whose first language is not Spanish, they speak mostly Mixteco and Triqui; their primary occupation is farmwork and they concentrate in disadvantaged communities.

Livingston's largest businesses are agriculture related. Among these are the largest poultry producer in the western United States, Foster Farms, and a dairy, Joseph Gallo Farms, which owns the largest dairy herd in the United States. Ninety percent of the sweet potatoes grown west of the Rockies are grown and packed in and around Livingston. Grapes are also widely farmed near Livingston for wine, raisins, and table grapes. E & J Gallo Winery operates a major grape-pressing facility just outside the city.

Air pollution concern: According to CalEnviroScreen, Livingston ranks in the top 81-85 percentile for pollution burden and social vulnerability. Livingston ranks higher for PM2.5, in the 93 percentile and in the 82 percentile for ozone. These air pollution problems may be attributed to the large number of diesel trucks coming to and from Foster Farms and Jose Gallo Farms and due to the fact that the Highway 99 runs in the middle of the city. Another large problem for this community are pesticides; Livingston ranks 96 for pesticide use.

## *Planada*

---

*Planada is being nominated for both community air monitors and emission reduction plans.*

Community location: Planada is an unincorporated community in Merced County approximately 10 miles east of the City of Merced. The community is defined as Whelan Road to the West, Gerard Ave to the South, S Ivett Rd to the east, & the unnamed backroad directly north of the 140 (Central Yosemite Hwy).

Description of the community:

The community of Planada, established in 1910, is now home to approximately 5,000 residents. Resident leaders have focused on advocating for increased investment in their community's park and active transportation infrastructure. Residents are currently advocating for approval of a community plan that would support an affordable housing development. Planada has a community center attached to the Senior Center where residents can hold meetings and access computers and printers.

According to the 2010 Census, Hispanic or Latino residents make up approximately 95% of Planada's demographics. Around 29% of individuals live below the poverty level. The community ranks in the top 14% most overburdened by pollution on CalEnviroScreen, and in the top 7% for PM 2.5 specifically and 18% for ozone.

Air pollution concern: Planada is mainly surrounded by agricultural operations, making pesticide contamination and pollution a major concern for residents. Additionally, there are multiple dairies located in and nearby the community, contributing to the area's poor air quality.

## *Le Grand*

---

*Le Grand is being nominated for community air monitors.*

Community location: Southeast of the City of Merced between Hwy's 99 and 140, at the intersection of Sante Fe avenue and Le Grand road. It is bisected by the BNSF freight rail line.

Description of the community: Le Grand is an unincorporated community of about 1700 residents, over 90% are Latino or Hispanic and over 50% are monolingual to Spanish. Almost 40% live at or below the FPL. Agriculture is the primary industry (almonds and walnuts) along with the beef and dairy industry, and a large gravel mining operation less than a mile northeast of the town center.

Air pollution concern: Le Grand and Planada sit in the wind column that brings pollution from the northern counties directly across it. There are multiple sources of pollution: from diesel trucks associated with both the gravel mine and cattle operations, heavy pesticide use by cattle food operations, nut growers and additional diesel pollution from ag engines located on-farm and those used by the irrigation system for pumping water. There is heavy PM10 and PM2.5 from nut harvesting.

## *Delhi*

---

*Delhi is self-nominating for both community air monitors and emission reduction plans.*

Community location: Delhi is an unincorporated community in Merced County, located off the 99 Highway and 18 miles west-northwest of Merced. The boundaries of the community are defined as August Ave to Merced Ave, Flower and Letteau Ave to Shanks and Vincent Rd, to El Capitan Way and Palm St, and South and 4<sup>th</sup> St.

Description of the community: Delhi is the largest unincorporated community in Merced County, with a population of around 11,000 people. Diversity, a thriving agricultural sector, and active community engagement characterize the community of Delhi. Delhi neighbors the nearby city of Turlock and relies on many of the city's resources. The major highway corridor (HWY 99), primarily used for goods movement cuts through the community, with no pedestrian access between the west and east sides. Delhi resident leaders through various community meetings have identified several air quality issues in their community and want to develop and implement solutions to address these concerns.

Air pollution concern: Proximity to major HWY 99 leads to high levels of transportation-related pollution (smog, greenhouse gases, particulate matter, carbon monoxide). Due to high levels of air pollution, Delhi is among the top 25% of CalEnviroScreen communities. Proximity to dairies and agriculture has resulted in high levels of pesticide, fertilizer use, and methane contamination. Sandy Soil infrastructure results in dust storms resulting in high levels of particulate matter and other contaminants. Nearby industrial businesses continue to emit harmful pollutants into the atmosphere.

## *South Merced*

---

*South Merced is self-nominating for both community air monitors and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: South Merced is a neighborhood that spans from West Ave to Martin Luther King Jr Way, and West Childs to the 99 Freeway.

Description of the community: Neighbors United for a Better South Merced is a community group that has advocated for decades for increased transportation investments in their community, community and pedestrian safety, and for a grocery store. They work very closely with their local government in the City of Merced to secure investments and improvements in their neighborhood. Recently, they were successful in securing a four-way stop in a heavily trafficked intersection that posed a threat to schoolchildren and families. Despite its location in one of the most agriculturally rich areas of the state, South Merced is a food desert and does not have a grocery store in the neighborhood where residents can buy fresh produce. There is a middle school and an elementary school in the community. The group holds regular meetings at the Golden Valley Health Center on W Childs Ave.

Air pollution concern: According to CalEnviroScreen, parts of South Merced ranks in the top 9% most overburdened communities, the top 7% for PM 2.5 pollution, and the top 12% for asthma rates. As the community is partially bordered by the 99 freeway, a major freight and vehicle corridor, air pollution from diesel emissions impacts South Merced. There is also an airport nearby that could potentially contribute harmful emissions to the community. Additionally, agricultural operations and new industrial parks located along highway 140 and Childs and 59 also contribute negatively to the air quality.

## *Fairmead*

---

*The community leaders of Fairmead are nominating their community for both community air monitors and emission reduction plans.*

Community location: The main cluster of homes in the Fairmead are between Avenue 21 1/2 and Avenue 24. This cluster of 178 homes are connected to the county well, have natural gas connection and all have septic tanks. All other property homes within Fairmead are a mix of larger acreage almond orchards and smaller 3-5 acre ranchettes.

Description of the community:

Fairmead is an unincorporated community in Madera County between the cities of Madera and Chowchilla. CA State Route Highway 99 splits the 8-square mile community of Fairmead. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hispanic or Latino residents make up almost 70% of Fairmead's demographics, approximately 17% residents identify as Black or African American. Fairmead is in the top 9% most overburdened communities on CalEnviroScreen, and the top 12% most pollution burdened. The community ranks in the top 15% for ozone pollution, top 16% for PM 2.5, and top 14% for pesticides.

There is only one school in Fairmead which only accommodates 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. All other school-aged children are bussed to Chowchilla and Madera. There is a significant lack of infrastructure: no commercial businesses, no parks, no sewer services, no community center, no sidewalks and many road issues and flooding. There is only one bus stop with no more than 3 routes a day and the nearest grocery store is 5 miles away.

Fairmead Community and Friends is a non-profit founded in 2007 to advocate for the community and ensure that residents' voices are heard at the county and state level. They advocate for basic infrastructure and investments in Fairmead and host community building activities such as annual dinners, food distribution, and children's activities.

Air pollution concern: Residents of Fairmead are concerned with a variety of possible pollution sources, such as the Fairmead Landfill on the westside, with homes in close proximity. The nitrates and pesticides used for the hundreds of acres of planted almond orchards that are in close proximity of homes are major concerns. The pollution from the BNSF and Union Pacific trains that run daily right along highway 99 very close to the cluster of homes is also of concern. Without any commerce in Fairmead there are many necessary vehicle trips for purchases and to go to work. There is one dairy in Fairmead. There are also clouds of dust brought on by work and harvest in the multitude of almond orchards surrounding Fairmead homes. With the lack of road repairs and due to the previous years' drought, there is more road dust.

## *La Vina*

---

*La Vina nominates itself for community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: La Vina is an unincorporated community in Madera County located about 7 miles south and southwest from the city of Madera. Along Avenue 9 are parcels with various types of housing, a SHE multi-family development with 56 units, and about 60 Self Help homes.

Description of the community: The majority of residents in La Vina are farmworkers and folks employed outside of the community. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hispanic or Latino residents make up 95% of La Vina's demographics. There is one bus stop that has one round trip to the City of Madera available only two days out of the week. There is a K-8 school one mile from the main tract of homes, but due to the lack of infrastructure and the danger of speeding diesel trucks and tractors, children are forbidden from walking to school and face suspension if caught by the school staff. There is one small market in the community, but the groceries are expensive. There is no public park, no community center, a significant lack of basic infrastructure, and severe road issues due to the agricultural surroundings.

Air pollution concern: La Vina is in the top 14% most overburdened communities on CalEnviroScreen, and ranks in the top 2% most pollution-burdened. The community ranks in the top 5% for PM 2.5 pollution, top 9% for pesticides, and top 15% for ozone. Residents of La Vina are concerned with a variety of pollution sources. Because of the lack of transit and transportation options, as well as lack of job opportunities in the community itself, residents must drive long distances for work and other services. Pollution from passenger vehicles as well as diesel emissions from tractors and freight are large contributors to the area's poor air quality. Truck traffic is particularly increased during the harvesting seasons. Additionally, residents are concerned with pesticides and dust from agricultural operations as the community is completely surrounded by various crops. A nearby winery - Mission Bell - on the northern end of the community as well as the Ardagh Glass manufacturing facility also create negative localized impacts. According to CARB's Pollution Mapping Tool, Ardagh Glass is a significant emitter of not only carbon dioxide, but also nitrous and sulfur oxides.

## *South-Central Fresno*

---

*In concert with the community-based groups Friends of Calwa and South Central Neighbors United, the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition, the Central California Environmental Justice Network and Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability nominate south-central Fresno communities for the deployment of a community air monitoring network as well as, and most importantly for, the development of a community emissions reduction program.*

Community location: South-Central Fresno consists of three small, unincorporated communities of Calwa, Malaga and Daleville. All are a few miles south of downtown Fresno. The residential areas are majority minority, economically disadvantaged, and surrounded by incorporated city land that has been zoned for heavy industrial uses. The communities share the same sources of pollution and have agreed to come together for the 617 nomination.

- Calwa is an unincorporated census-designated place in Fresno County located 4 miles southeast of downtown Fresno. It's boundaries are generally considered to be the 6019001202 census tract. This community is home to the Calwa Elementary School and the Calwa Recreation and Park District.
- Malaga is an unincorporated, census-designated place in Fresno County located 6 miles south-southeast of downtown Fresno. It is a residential neighborhood located between Muscat Avenue to the north, Central Ave to the south, S Chestnut to the west, and S Willow to the east. This community is home to the Malaga Elementary School and the Malaga Community Center, Community Park and Recreation Center.
- Daleville is an informal name given to a few unincorporated disadvantaged neighborhoods along East Central Avenue between State Highways 99 and 41. It is home to the Orange Center Elementary School.

Description of the community: According to CalEnviroScreen 3.0, there are roughly 13,000 people living in South-Central Fresno. 90-95% of the population is Hispanic or Latino. In Daleville and Malaga, over half of all households have children under the age of 18 living in the home. These areas have unemployment and poverty levels higher than 90-95% of all communities in the state of California. According to the Malaga Elementary School principal, the average household income in Malaga is \$17,000. In Daleville, approximately 90% of the children who attend the nearby Orange Center Elementary School qualify for free and reduced-price lunch under the National School Lunch Program. 42% of Orange Center students are English Language Learners.

According to CalEnviroScreen 3.0, this area's overall population characteristics, which rate the level of vulnerability to pollution from 0-100, is 95. Asthma and cardiovascular rates are in the top 10th percentile compared to all other Californian communities. Many households located in the Daleville area have one or multiple cancer incidences and cancer-related deaths that are likely due to environmental contamination.

Air pollution concern: According to CalEnviroScreen 3.0, this area is considered the most polluted area in the state of California. Its pollution burden score is 100. Ozone is 98, PM2.5 is 97, toxic release are between 95-98, hazardous waste is between 96-100, and solid waste is between 98-100.

- Calwa residents are exposed to emissions from diesel trucks and cars traveling on Highway 99, diesel trains that run through and stop in the neighborhood, food processing plants, as well as emissions from heavy-duty trucks driving in and out of the distributions centers and trucks stops that surround the neighborhood. Some agriculture flanks pieces of the neighborhood.
- Malaga residents are exposed to significant sources of emissions. The Rio Bravo Biomass incinerator is Fresno County's largest source of direct PM2.5 - and is kiddy-corner to the community's recreation center and in sight of the elementary school. Next door to the biomass facility is PPG Industries' Glass Factory, the San Joaquin Valley's largest point source of NOx emissions. The facility also adds roughly 12 tons of PM2.5 a year to the air. The community also has passenger and freight trains running nearby, heavy traffic from the 99 Highway next door, multiple recycling and waste centers, and dozens of distribution centers, warehouses and truck stops that immediately flank the south, north and west sides of the neighborhood. Some agriculture flanks pieces of the neighborhood.
- Daleville residents are subjected to substantial air pollutant emissions from existing industrial uses in the area, and nearby freeway traffic. The Amazon and Ulta distribution centers were recently constructed across the street from Daleville residences. 2,000 acres of vacant land is poised to be developed into an industrial park, bringing roughly 6,000 additional vehicle trips a day. A landfill is nearby and a petroleum terminal, which emits over 70 tons of organic gases a year, is located next to housing. Agriculture falls south of the communities, and airborne construction and road dust is prevalent. All residents access drinking water from home wells, which have almost entirely dried up. According to CalEnviro, the drinking water score is 99 - the most contaminated in the State.

## Selma

---

*Selma is being nominated for the deployment of a community air monitoring network.*

Community location: 14 miles south of Fresno City and directly adjacent to Hwy 99 interstate freight corridor. The community intersects with Hwy 43.

Description of the community: Selma is an agricultural community of about 25,000. It is 81% Hispanic or Latino. 24% of the population live at or below the federal poverty line.

Air pollution concern:

- Hwy's 99 and 43. Manning Avenue, Golden State Hwy
- Glass Plant (Gaurdian)
- Chicken Farm (Carter Farm)
- Sun-Maid and Lions farms
- Distribution centers, hot and cold storage facilities for poultry, raisins and other produce. Wonderful Corporation packing shed.
- Basalite cement plant
- BNSF and UP rail lines run through the center of town.

## *“The West Side”*

### *(Huron, Coalinga and Avenal)*

---

*Valley LEAP nominates the West Side communities for both a community air monitoring campaign and the development of a community emissions reduction program.*

Community location: The “West Side” of the San Joaquin Valley includes far west Fresno and Kings Counties, and small communities on the west side of Kings County. Major communities include Huron, Coalinga and Avenal.

Description of the community: The West Side is one of the most isolated sub-regions in the Valley. Cumulative health impacts include sources from the Interstate 5 (tens of thousands of diesel truck traffic daily), dairies, pesticides throughout, bio sludge, petroleum extraction in the western hills and a multi-regional landfill. Additionally, this western region is a hot bed for valley fever, which is much more problematic due to high poverty rates and limited quality medical care access. The area also has compromised drinking water quality and high rates of asthma.

Air pollution concern: Apart from the persistent bad air quality that plagues the region, there are numerous pollution sources as mentioned above. The only sub-regional data available is what is captured by the PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitor in Huron. The air quality monitor is a concern. During certain occasions, the monitor showed some very high levels of PM 2.5 emissions. At every occasion when this happened the air district shared that the monitor was malfunctioning. This poses a concern of data integrity. The lack of monitors and lack of AQ data undermines our emergency preparedness in a community where we know of numerous asthma, valley fever and other respiratory illness cases.

Historical Community Organizing: Valley LEAP founder and executive director has been active on the west side of the Valley since 1994 as an organizer, since 2003 in regards to air quality policy and environmental justice systems change. For over a decade, Valley LEAP has worked closely with community members from Huron, Coalinga and Kings County on numerous campaigns and helped co-start community action committees identified as Comite ALMA's. The LEAP work with community has included: Leadership Institutes, advocacy against pollution sources and legislative visits for clean air in addition to participatory action research and citizen science.

## *Reedley*

---

*Reedley is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Reedley is located in Fresno County in the San Joaquin Valley, 22 miles southeast of the city of Fresno.

Description of the community:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Reedley had a population of 25,582. 75% of the population is Latino/Hispanic, and 18.7% are non-hispanic white. 62% of the population over 25 years old has graduated high school, compared with 82% for the state of California. Reedley's median household income is \$43,907, compared with \$63,783 for California. It has a poverty rate of 26.6%, compared to California's 14.3%.

Reedley has been designated by CalEnviroScreen as a severely disadvantaged community. It falls within the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 percentile range of 91-95%. It is in the 98th percentile for both PM2.5 and ozone and the 90th percentile for pesticides.

Air pollution concern: Based on the California Air Resources Board's 2016 data, primary sources of pollution are a farm and ranch located in Reedley and the primary pollutants are particulate matter and organic gas. Pesticides are also a concern.

## *San Joaquin*

---

*San Joaquin is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: The city of San Joaquin is the smallest city in Fresno County, comprising a total area of 1.1 square miles. It is surrounded by agricultural fields. San Joaquin is located 30 miles west of Fresno and 11 miles southwest of the city of Kerman.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, San Joaquin has a population of 4,011. It is 95% Hispanic and 5% NHW. 20.6% of adults have graduated high school. The median income is \$24,234, compared with \$63,783 for California, and the poverty rate is 46.3%, compared to California's 14.3%. 90.1% of the people in San Joaquin speak a non-English language. It is designated by CalEnviroScreen as a severely disadvantaged community, with an overall CalEnviroScreen 3.0 percentile of 86 - 90%.

Air pollution concern: San Joaquin is in the 82nd percentile for ozone, 95th for PM 2.5, 93rd for pesticides, and 88th for cardiovascular disease. San Joaquin's primary stationary source of pollution is Fresno Cogeneration Partners, which primarily generates organic gas. As the city is surrounded by agricultural fields, agricultural pollutants - particularly pesticides and fertilizers - are of extreme concern.

## Orange Cove

---

*Orange Cove is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Orange Cove is a small city of 1.9 square miles located in Fresno County, 8 miles southeast of Reedley.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Orange Cove has a population of 9,566. It is 95.7% Hispanic. 45.9% of adults have graduated high school. The median income is \$27,782, compared with \$63,783 for California, and the poverty rate is 51.6%, compared to California's 14.3%. Orange Cove is designated as a severely disadvantaged community by CalEnviroScreen. It fall within the 88th percentile for low birth weight.

Air pollution concern: Orange Cove in the 98th percentile for ozone, 97th percentile for PM2.5, and 85th percentile for pesticides. The primary stationary source of pollution located in Orange Cove is Sun-maid growers, which is a source of less than 1 ton of organic gas and particulate matter annually. Orange Cove is surrounded by agricultural fields and orchards, so agricultural pollutants - especially pesticides - are a significant concern.

## *Lanare*

---

*Lanare is being nominated for both community air monitors and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Lanare is an unincorporated community located approximately 24 miles south of the city of Fresno and 8 miles west of the 41 freeway. Mt. Whitney Road is the southern boundary of the community, with residential houses on Chateau Ave, Fresno, Garfield, Grantland, and Bryan. The Census tract in which Lanare is located is much larger than the boundaries of the community.

Description of the community:

Lanare is surrounded by agricultural lands and large-scale dairies. According to the 2010 Census, 40% of the community's population age 25 years and older have achieved an education level below the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. 88% of residents are Hispanic or Latino, and about 62% live below the poverty level. The Census tract in which Lanare is located is in the top 19% most disadvantaged communities on CalEnviroScreen, and ranks in the top 9% for ozone pollution and the top 3% for PM 2.5. The community also ranks in the top 9% for pesticide application.

Lanare's water is contaminated with arsenic, and resident leaders have been embroiled in a fight for clean drinking water for more than a decade. Although an arsenic treatment plant was built in their community, the engineering study for the plant did not accurately consider residents' low-income status or water usage, so residents were not able to afford the fees to operate and maintain it. After only 6 months the facility went idle and the system was put into receivership because of mismanagement. Since then, the community has been advocating for a permanent drinking water solution, and they have successfully procured state funding for a new water system with two new wells. The new Community Services District has been training to take back control of the water system.

Much of Lanare is situated along a fast-paced, two-lane county road called Mt. Whitney. Several years ago, community leaders were able to advocate for state funding to construct a sidewalk along Mt. Whitney so that residents could walk safely to neighbors' homes, the small shop, or the community center. The community as a whole is severely lacking in infrastructure; most streets do not have sidewalks or street lights, roads are poorly maintained, there is no public transit for accessing healthy stores and resources in nearby cities, and poor wastewater infrastructure makes the community prone to flooding during the rainy season.

Lanare has a community center where the community group meets once a month to discuss state legislation, transportation, and make decisions regarding their water services. The group meets with state legislators, district supervisors, and state agency representatives and

partners with Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability on these decision-making processes.

Air pollution concern: Residents of Lanare are concerned with a variety of possible pollution sources, including contamination from pesticide use in the agricultural fields surrounding the community, dust from the dry fields surrounding their homes, and the many dairies located in and nearby the community. Many of these dairies have been permitted to construct dairy digesters on their sites, which poses localized air pollution risks. Additionally, because of the lack of transit options and basic services in the community, residents are forced to drive outside of Lanare for work, medical services, school, or other essentials, thereby increasing air pollution from passenger vehicles.

## *Kettleman City*

---

*The community of Kettleman City is nominating itself. It is supported by the groups Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice as well as El Pueblo para el Aire y Agua Limpia de Kettleman City. The community is requesting community air monitoring and the development of an emissions reductions program.*

Community location: Kettleman City is a rural, unincorporated community in Kings County, located 38 miles from the county seat of Hanford. Kettleman City is located on the cross section between Highway 41 and Interstate 5. The town is split in half by Highway 41.

Description of the community: The community of Kettleman City has a population of 1,505 residents with the majority being either Latino or Hispanic. The community has no grocery stores other than convenience markets. Kettleman City has no street lights and almost no sidewalks. Kettleman City residents are concerned for their health for numerous reasons; high rates of asthma are common as well as other respiratory problems, including Valley Fever. Additionally, during a 14-month period between 2007-2009, there was a rash of unexplained birth defects in the community. Five babies were born with cleft palate. Three of those children died. Residents continue to worry about their health and the well-being of their families.

Air pollution concern: Kettleman City is surrounded by agricultural fields that are constantly sprayed by pesticides. There are no buffer zones between the fields and the town. The town is also home to three large distribution centers and upwards of 800 diesel trucks pass through the town on a daily basis. Kettleman City is located three miles away from the largest toxic waste landfill in the western United States: Chemical Waste Management, Kettleman Hills Facility.

## *Goshen*

---

*The community is being nominated for an air monitoring campaign.*

Community location: Intersection of Hwy 99 and 198 in Tulare County.

Description of the community: Unincorporated City in Kings County with less than 4,000 people, the majority of whom are farmworkers who live at or below the federal poverty line.

Air pollution concern:

- Air Pollution from Hwy 99;
- Several large dairy operations; and
- A large composting facility approximately one mile south of town in the southwest corner of the Hwy 99 and 198 interchange.

## *Plainview*

---

*The community is being nominated for an air monitoring campaign.*

Community location: Eastern Tulare county.

Description of the community: Unincorporated community of about 1,000 mostly Latino or Hispanic residents of whom a high number speak primarily Spanish. Surrounded by large Concentrated Animal Farming Operations or CAFOs that are dairies.

Air pollution concern: Surrounded by dairies, Plainview residents are exposed daily to PM 2.5, air toxics and SLCP's like methane and black carbon as well as various components of diesel fuel not described in those categories. Pesticides are also a problem.

## *Pixley*

---

*Pixley is being nominated for an air monitoring campaign.*

Community location: Located in central Tulare County on Hwy 99.

Description of the community: Principal employer is agriculture-dairy, and the trucking industry with two large truck stops in the middle of the community. Community of over three thousand people over 80 percent Latino or Hispanic, the majority of whom speak primarily Spanish. Over 90% of residents live at or below the federal poverty line.

Air pollution concern: Significant air and climate pollution from surrounding large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO's) and associated crops. Large amount of diesel, pesticides and other air toxics from both agriculture and the freight transport system.

## *Lindsay*

---

*Lindsay is being nominated for the development of an emissions reduction plan.*

Community location: Lindsay is a city located in Tulare County, southeast of Visalia and north of Porterville. It is considered part of the Visalia-Porterville Metropolitan Area and the Porterville Urban Area by the United States Census Bureau. The city has a total area of 2.6 square miles.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Lindsay has a population of 13,052. It is 88% Hispanic and 9% Non-Hispanic White. 48.8% of adults have graduated high school. The median income is \$30,317, compared with \$63,783 for California, and the poverty rate is 37.8%, compared with California's 14.3%. Lindsay's CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile is 76-80%. It is designated as a severely disadvantaged community by CalEnviroScreen.

Air pollution concerns: Lindsay is in the 91st percentile for ozone, 95th percentile for PM2.5, and 80th percentile for pesticides. Lindsay is surrounded by agricultural fields and orchards, so community residents are particularly concerned about exposure to pesticides.

## *Ivanhoe*

---

*Ivanhoe is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Ivanhoe is a Census-Designated Place of 2.0 square miles in the northwest portion of Tulare County.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Ivanhoe has a population of 4,014. It is 82.3% Hispanic and 16.4% white. Its median income is \$31,611, compared with \$63,783 for California, and it has a poverty rate of 38.6%, compared with California's 14.3%. Ivanhoe's CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile is 71-75%.

Air pollution concern: Ivanhoe is in the 85th percentile for ozone, 95th percentile for PM2.5, 91st percentile for pesticides, and 97th percentile for drinking water. Surrounded by agriculture, community residents are concerned about agricultural pesticides.

## Woodville

---

*Woodville is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Woodville is a census-designated place of 4.4 square miles in the southwest portion of Tulare County.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Woodville has a population of 1,748, about 94.6% of whom are Hispanic and 4.58% white. Woodville's median household income is \$31,375. Woodville is extremely poor, with a poverty rate of 50.6%. According to the 2016 American Community Survey, only about 33% of the community has received a high school education or higher.

Woodville is a severely disadvantaged community, with a CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile of 81-85%, a Pollution Burden Percentile of 81%, and a Population Characteristics Percentile of 73%. Woodville has high poverty levels, with a CalEnviroScreen rating of 98% and a 72% unemployment rating. It is considered linguistically isolated, with a 95% percentile rating. Cardiovascular disease ranking is 68%.

Air pollution concern: Woodville is in the 91st percentile for ozone, 98th percentile for PM2.5, 83rd percentile for pesticides, and 91st percentile for drinking water.

## *Traver*

---

*Traver is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Traver is a Census-Designated Place of 0.8 square miles in the far northwest portion of Tulare County.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Traver has a population of 747, about 80% of whom are Hispanic, 11% white, and 5% Native American Indian. 35% of adults have received a high school diploma. Median household income is \$31,094, compared with \$63,783 for California, and the poverty rate is very high - 46.1% compared with California's 14.3%.

Traver is a severely disadvantaged community, with a CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile of 91-95%, a Pollution Burden Percentile of 89%, and a Population Characteristics Percentile of 81%.

Air pollution concern: The census tract on which Traver is located is in the 91st percentile for ozone, 98th percentile for PM2.5, 94th percentile for pesticides, and 95th percentile for drinking water. The primary stationary source of pollution located in Traver is Foster Farms, which generates 23.4 tons of particulate matter annually. Traver is surrounded by agricultural fields, so there are also concerns about pesticides and other agricultural pollutants.

## *Matheny Tract*

---

*Matheny Tract is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Matheny Tract is an unincorporated community of about 1,200 residents in Tulare County. The 99 freeway marks the community's eastern border, and Matheny is surrounded by farmland and industrial development. Palo Verde Elementary is a K-8 school located less than two miles from Matheny Tract that serves roughly 600 students, including the children of Matheny.

Description of the community: 73% of Matheny Tract are Hispanic or Latino, with 33% of residents living below the poverty level. According to the most recent Legacy Plan, Matheny Tract's median household income is \$30,565, half of the State of California's median household income. The Plan also found that approximately 55% of the severely disadvantaged community's housing units were deteriorated and 32% were dilapidated. Matheny Tract ranks in the top 15% most overburdened communities according to CalEnviroScreen, and is also in the top 15% most pollution burdened communities. Matheny Tract scores in the top 9% for ozone and top 1% for PM2.5. The community also scores in the top 20% for asthma and pesticides.

In 2010, residents organized into the Matheny Tract Committee to address the lack of basic infrastructure, such as sidewalks, streetlights, safe drinking water, and sewage systems. Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability works closely with the Matheny Tract Committee, and in 2016 through grassroots organizing and legal advocacy, the community became the beneficiary of the State Water Board's first mandated drinking water system consolidation. The community continues to organize for wastewater treatment, parks, protection from industrial pollution, street lights, and active transportation infrastructure.

Air pollution concern: Residents of Matheny Tract are concerned with a variety of pollution sources, including contamination from pesticide use in the agricultural fields around the community and the multitude of dairies in the area. The community borders Highway 99 and a Union Pacific Railroad which are responsible for many emissions. Matheny's northern border with the City of Tulare is zoned heavy industrial. Matheny Tract's Legacy Plan identifies that because Matheny Tract is located near the central portion of the Valley with prevailing winds from the northwest, it is in a vulnerable position for the accumulation of adversely modified air, particularly when a temperature inversion occurs which holds down surface air along with its pollutants.

## *Farmersville*

---

*Farmersville is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Farmersville is a city of 2.3 square miles in Tulare County, just to the east of the city of Visalia.

Description of the community: According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Farmersville has a population of 10,699 people, about 86% of whom are Hispanic and 11% of whom are white. It is important to acknowledge that among the Hispanic population, Farmersville has a significant population of indigenous immigrants (primarily from the Mexican state of Oaxaca) whose first language is not Spanish. They speak mostly Mixteco and their primary occupation is farmwork.

Median household income is \$33,689, compared with \$63,783 for California. The poverty rate is 29.4%, compared with California's 14.3%. Farmersville has a single unified school district with a high school, a middle school, and three elementary schools.

Farmersville is a severely disadvantaged community, with a CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile of 76-80%, a Pollution Burden Percentile of 53%, and a Population Characteristics Percentile of 84%. According to CalEnviroScreen 3.0, Farmersville is in the 71st percentile for asthma, 85th percentile for low birth weight, 80th percentile for linguistic isolation, 93rd percentile for poverty, and 95th percentile for unemployment.

Air Pollution Concern: Farmersville is in the 85th percentile for ozone, 98th percentile for PM2.5, 97th percentile for pesticides, and 71st percentile for drinking water. Cemex Construction Materials Pacific LLC is one of a number of major industrial manufacturers in Farmersville, including Dunns Sand and the National Raisin Company. In 2016 Cemex emitted 5.6 tons of particulate matter according to CARB's facility data. Farmersville is surrounded by agricultural fields, so there are also concerns about pesticides and other agricultural pollutants along the outer boundaries of the city.

## *Exeter*

---

*Exeter is being nominated for both community air monitoring and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Exeter is a city with a total area of 2.5 square miles situated near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Exeter is located on State Highway 65, 2 miles south of Highway 198 and 15 miles east of Highway 99.

Description of the community:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as of 2016, Exeter has a population of 10,054 people, about 44% of whom are Hispanic and 51% white. It is important to acknowledge that among the Hispanics residing in Exeter, there is a significant number of indigenous immigrants (primarily from the Mexican state of Oaxaca) whose first language is not Spanish. They speak mostly Mixteco and their primary occupation is farmwork.

Median household income is \$42,590, compared with \$63,783 for California. The poverty rate is 25.3%. The public school system in Exeter consists of Exeter Union High School, the Wilson Middle School, Rocky Hill Elementary, Lincoln Elementary and Kaweah High School. Exeter has a CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile of 46 - 50%, with a Pollution Burden Percentile of 53%, and a Population Characteristics Percentile of 40%.

Air pollution concern: Exeter is in the 91st percentile for ozone, 97th percentile for PM2.5, and 90th percentile for pesticides. A number of major manufacturers are located in Exeter, including Exeter Dehydrator, Inc., which emitted 21.2 tons of sulfur oxides (SOx) in 2016, and Peninsula Packaging Llc, which emitted 6.3 tons of particulate matter that same year according to CARB's facility data. Exeter is surrounded by agricultural fields, so there are also concerns about pesticides and other agricultural pollutants along the outer boundaries of the city.

## Tooleville

---

*Tooleville is being nominated for both air monitoring and emission reduction plans.*

Community location: Tooleville is an unincorporated community in Tulare County just one mile east of the city of Exeter and at the base of the Southern Sierra foothills. Homes in Tooleville are located along Alfred Avenue on the north and Morgan Avenue on the south, with a few homes fronting Spruce Road. The Friant Kern Canal borders the east side of the community.

Description of the community: About 82% of Tooleville's 340 residents are Hispanic or Latino, and about a quarter of the population live below the poverty level. According to the 2017 Tooleville Legacy Plan, Tooleville's median household income was \$29,455, compared to \$42,031 for Tulare County and \$61,818 for the State of California. According to the 2016 American Community Survey, only about 18% of the community has received a high school education or higher. Tooleville is surrounded by agricultural lands and, for decades, has been dealing with contaminated drinking water and limited groundwater quantity. Because households use swamp coolers to cool their homes, the drought coupled with extreme heat poses severe health risks to residents.

The lack of basic infrastructure such as drainage result in frequent flooding of the community during the rainy months. There is no bus in Tooleville and residents are also concerned with pedestrian safety walking to Exeter along Firebaugh Ave and Spruce Ave, a major rural corridor.

In addition to advocating for transportation infrastructure improvements in their community, several community partners, led by the Tooleville Mutual Water Association, are working on securing access to clean and safe drinking water by consolidating water services with Exeter.

Air pollution concerns: Tooleville is a severely disadvantaged community and ranks in the top 9% for ozone, top 6% for PM2.5, and top 11% for pesticides according to CalEnviroScreen. Residents of Tooleville are concerned with a variety of pollution sources, including dust and pesticide drift from overuse in the adjacent agricultural fields and localized traffic pollution from the heavily-used Spruce Ave.

## Lamont

---

*Lamont is being nominated for both community air monitors and an emissions reduction plan.*

Community location: Lamont is located north of the City of Arvin and south of the City of Bakersfield. Lamont is an unincorporated county island that has historically been underserved and ignored over the years by the Kern County Planning Department. There is a long-awaited need for betterment and change in the community of Lamont. The community of Lamont is located South of Mountain View Rd and North of Buena Vista Blvd. Lamont is also East of Fairfax Rd and West of Vineland Rd.

Description of the community: Lamont's is made up of 95% Latino/Hispanic, 3% White, and 2% Other. Homes are less than 40% occupant-owned and the vast majority are owned by investors living outside Lamont. The median household income is only \$34,000.00. The majority of Lamont residents are employed by major agricultural companies operating in the region.

Air pollution concern: Lamont is an Environmental Justice community as evidenced by decades of elected officials prioritizing major industries over public health and resident wellness. As a rural, disadvantaged and historical farm-working community, it has been at the forefront of environmental racism and poor land-use practices. Lamont is surrounded on all sides by agricultural lands and is one of the most heavily impacted by pesticides in Kern County. Lamont is also directly downwind from one of the largest oil & gas refineries in the county. Lamont suffers from some of the worst environmental conditions in all the state. PM2.5 levels are worst in the nation. The water has been heavily polluted by historic misuse of pesticides and oil and gas by-products.

## Arvin

---

*Arvin is being nominated for both community air monitors and an emissions reduction plan.*

Community location: The City of Arvin is located in South Kern County and is one of the southernmost communities in Kern County before the Grapevine communities. At the bottom of the air basin and surrounded by mountains on three sides, the City of Arvin is located in a very unfortunate situation. It is also surrounded by heavy agriculture practices and oil & gas production. The community of Arvin is defined by the sphere of influence surrounding the community. Arvin is located East of Ranchero Rd and West of Tower Line Rd, South of Sunset Blvd & North of Beckett Blvd. Arvin City Council is composed of all Latinos and majority millennials.

Description of the community: The City of Arvin is in South Kern County and is populated by 21,000 residents. 90% of residents are Latinos/Hispanic and 10% are White, African-American, Asian American & others. The Median household income in Arvin is \$32,000. Income is derived mainly from agricultural work in the surrounding fields. The City of Arvin's housing stock is noteworthy; more than 50% of people live in rented homes and less the 45% of Arvin residents own their own homes.

An environmental justice revolution was ignited the City of Arvin, leading to Arvin residents standing up and speaking up for their community. Arvin has an active group of residents that have mapped and tracked local pollution and even created partnerships with neighboring industries. Arvin volunteer residents have been leading grassroots, environmental justice projects for a least a decade. The City's history of activism is reflected in the makeup of the City Council, which is formed of all Latinos and 4 out of 5 members are millennials.

Air pollution concern: The City of Arvin is completely surrounded by agriculture and is one of the locations that uses the most pesticides on a yearly basis. Arvin also has a long history with oil & gas producers, mostly small producers that generate low volumes of crude oil but large amounts of air toxins.

## Lost Hills

---

*Lost Hills is being nominated for both community air monitors and an emissions reduction plan.*

Community location: Lost Hills is an unincorporated community approximately 40 miles Northwest of Bakersfield. The community is located west of I-5, east of Blackwells Corner on HWY 46, south of Lost Hills Rd., and north of the California Aqueduct & the Lost Hills Airport. The Community of Lost Hills is heavily industrialized and surrounded by Kern County oilfields & almond farming as far as the eye can see. Lost Hills is the number one location in Kern for pesticides use according to the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner. Lost Hills is also directly North of California's largest active oil & gas production field, Belridge North-Belridge South, & Midway Sunset oilfields. Lost Hills is surrounded by two very large corporations, the Wonderful Company (Ag) and Area Energy (Oil & Gas).

Description of the community: According the census data, Lost Hills has a population of 2,400 people and a median household income of just \$31,000. The racial makeup of the community includes over 90% Latino/Hispanic, 5% White, and the rest African American, Native American and other backgrounds. Over the past couple of years Lost Hills residents, whom have a limited understanding of the complex world of government regulatory powers, have been inviting and open to environmental justices organizations. The organizations focus on grassroots principles and collaboration with residents. Residents have been engaging in community science events in which they capture and track pollution over time.

Air pollution concern: Lost Hills is a community surrounded by industrialized farming practices and is located just north of California's largest oilfields. For the past years Lost Hills residents have organized tours for regulators, participated in public comment at key hearings, and have been active in voicing their concerns with air pollution from oil & gas operations, diesel pollution from the I-5 and HWY 46, and the overwhelming practice of pesticide application.

## Shafter

---

*Shafter is being nominated for both community air monitors and an emissions reduction plan.*

Community location: Shafter is an incorporated city of about 17,231 residents 18 miles northwest of Bakersfield, in Kern County. The community is located along State Route 43 and is surrounded by farmland and oil extraction fields.

Description of the community: According to the 2010 United States Census, Shafter is 80% Hispanic or Latino. Since the late 1980s, community residents have organized and fought for Environmental Justice. Community residents meet monthly and focus on improving air quality, due to their proximity to oil wells, dairies, and pesticide application. They are concerned their small community will not be prioritized under AB 617 when compared to larger cities.

Air pollution concern: Local air pollution sources within the general vicinity of Shafter include agriculture, dairies, industrial facilities, and oil activity. Shafter is the epicenter of oil exploration and extraction in Kern County. 93% of Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking) permits are given to Kern County, with a great majority in close proximity to the community of Shafter. Shafter has recorded alarming health cases, such as a 9 year boy that was diagnosed with prostate cancer and an 11 year old girl that died of unknown causes, yet her symptoms begun when an oil well was fracked a few feet away from her school. The community is concerned with vehicle traffic as well, as it sits between two major freeways: State Route 99 and I-5. Shafter is also home to a superfund site. Community residents note that pesticides are a huge problem. They would like notices for when pesticides are applied so they can be prepared and they also want education on what to do when sprayed with pesticides. Residents are also very concerned with a roofing company in their community. They smell a very bad smell of tar at night and they say it's getting worse and worse.

## Delano

---

*Delano is being nominated for community air monitors.*

Community location: Delano is an incorporated community of about 53,819 residents in Kern County. Delano is 31 miles north-northwest of the city Bakersfield. It's Kern County's second largest city after Bakersfield.

Description of the community: According to the 2010 United States Census, Delano is 71.5% Hispanic or Latino. Since the 1960s community residents have organized and fought for social and environmental justice. Today, they focus on air and water quality.

Air pollution concern: Local air pollution sources within the general vicinity of Delano include agricultural and dairy activity and State Route 99, which runs through the middle of town.

## Wasco

---

*Wasco is being nominated for community air monitors.*

Community location: Wasco is an incorporated community 24 miles northwest of Bakersfield.

Description of the community: The 2010 United States Census reported that Delano had a population of 25,545, with 76.7% Hispanic or Latino. Since the 1990s community residents have fought for Social and Environmental Justice in Wasco. Most recently they have fought for better air and water quality.

Air pollution concern: Local air pollution sources within the general vicinity of Wasco include agriculture, dairy, and oil activity. Another source of concern for the residents are the two highly-trafficked highways: on the north end of the city Hwy 46 connects the Central Valley with the Central Coast and on the east side of town Hwy 43 is a main corridor for the agricultural, dairy and oil industries.

## Buttonwillow

---

*Buttonwillow is being nominated for community air monitors and an emission reduction plan.*

Community location: Buttonwillow is an unincorporated community 26 miles west of Bakersfield.

Description of the community: According to the 2010 United States Census, Buttonwillow had a population of 1,506. Hispanic or Latino were 1,183 persons (78.4%). Since the 1990s community residents have fought for social and environmental justice in Buttonwillow.

Air pollution concern: Local air pollution sources within the general vicinity of Buttonwillow include agricultural and oil activity. Another source of concern for the residents is the I-5 that runs on the east side of town.

## Oildale

---

*Oildale is being nominated for community air monitors.*

Community location: Oildale is located just slightly northwest of the City of Bakersfield, although it is surrounded by the City of Bakersfield on three sides. Oildale sits on the floodplain of the Kern River.

Description of the community: Oildale's racial makeup is over 75% White, 10% Hispanic followed by multiracial backgrounds. Oildale has a population of 34,277 people with a median age of 33.4 and a median household income of \$36,866. The City of Oildale sits downwind from the largest metropolitan oilfield in the Central Valley.

Air pollution concern: Oildale is considered a fence-line community that is affected by major sources of toxic air pollutants. Oildale sits between major sources of pollution: the Poso Creek oilfield (Bakersfield's largest oilfield), the Bakersfield Airport, and Hwy 99.

## *Appendices*

# OIL AND GAS COMMUNITIES

	"The West Side" (Huron, Avenal and Coalinga)	Wasco	Buttonwillow	Kettleman City	Lamont	Arvin	Lost Hills	Shafter	West Stanislaus County	
	6019007802, 6019007801, 6031001701, 6019007902, 6019008000, 6019008100, 6031001601	6029004402 6029004301 6029004401 6029004302		6031001601 (massive census tract)	6029006401, 6029006403, 6029006404, 6029006201, 6029002400	6029006202, 6029006301, 6029006304, 6029006303	6029004500	6029003900 6029004200 6029004102 6029004000 6029004101		
Census Tract(s):			6029003700						6099003100	
Oil & Gas Results										
CALENVIRO										
<b>Pollution:</b> Ozone, PM2.5, Pesticides, Toxic Releases										
<b>Population:</b> <u>Ashtma, Linguistic Isolation, Poverty, Low-Birth Weight</u>										
	73.55581847, 71.46956854, 69.47647918, 57.92958947, 53.4426895, 60.96431669, 75.43771925	80.33586394, 76.22696658, 70.32496608, 59.54767497	74.40	75.44	75.44	75.84	73.80	81.34777366, 72.94740435, 77.34272846, 76.01752913, 70.98414087		85.79
<b>PERCENTILE:</b>	66.04	71.61	74.40	75.44	75.84	70.34	73.80	75.73	72.36	
<b>Cummulative Pollution Exposure</b> (CalEnviroScreen Pollution Percentile)	61, 68, 47, 61, 45, 64, 81	83, 86, 55	91.00	81.00	69, 52, 54, 90, 96	91, 58, 80, 54	95.00	96, 88, 81, 82, 84	97.00	80.78
	61.00	74.67	91.00	81.00	72.20	70.75	95.00	86.20	97.00	75.85
<b>Community Organizing</b> exceptionally high (100) high (75) medium (50) low (25) none (0)										73.42
<b>In or Next to an Oil Field</b>	75	100	100	75	100	100	100	100	25	
<b>1st Round Weighting</b>										
Calenviro (50)	33.02	35.80	37.20	37.72	37.92	35.17	36.90	37.86	36.18	
Cumm. Pollution (15)	9.15	11.2	13.65	12.15	10.83	10.6125	14.25	12.93	14.55	
Next to an Oil Field (15)	11.25	15	15	11.25	15	15	15	15	3.75	
Historical Organizing (20)	20	10	10	20	20	20	15	20	10	
	73.42	72.00	75.85	81.12	83.75	80.78	81.15	85.79	64.48	

## URBAN COMMUNITIES

[illegible]



