

# Humboldt County Draft General Plan --Chapter 15. Air Quality Element

## AQ-G1. Improved Air Quality. Air quality that meets state and federal ambient air quality standards. (Alternative C Policy)

Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p><b>AQ-P2. Reduce Localized Concentrated Air Pollution.</b> Reduce or minimize the creation of "hot spots" or localized places of concentrated automobile emissions.</p> <p><b>AQ-P5. Air Quality Impacts from New Development.</b> During environmental review of discretionary permits, reduce emissions of air pollutants from new commercial and industrial development by requiring feasible mitigation measures to achieve the standards of the NCAQMD.</p> <p><b>AQ-P6. Buffering Land Uses.</b> During environmental review of discretionary commercial and industrial projects, consider the use of buffers between new sources of emissions and adjacent land uses to minimize exposure to air pollution.</p> <p><b>AQ-P7. Interagency Coordination.</b> Coordinate with the NCAQMD early in the permit review process to identify expected regulatory outcomes and minimize delays for projects involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. CEQA environmental review;</li> <li>B. Building demolition projects that may involve removal of asbestos containing material subject to National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP); and</li> <li>C. Grading and mining operations subject to State Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCM) for naturally occurring asbestos.</li> </ul> <p>Rely on the air quality standards, permitting processes, and enforcement capacity of the NCAQMD to define thresholds of significance and set adequate mitigations under CEQA to the maximum extent allowable.</p> <p><b>AQ-P11. Forest Sequestration and Biomass Energy.</b> Provide incentives for increased carbon sequestration on forest lands and encourage the <u>reduction of smoke production through the</u></p>	<p><b>AQ-S2. Evaluate Air Quality Impacts.</b> During environmental review of discretionary projects, evaluate new commercial and industrial sources of emissions using analytical methods and significance criteria used or recommended by the NCAQMD.</p> <p><b>AQ-S3. Buffering Land Uses.</b> When considering buffers between new commercial and industrial sources of emissions and adjacent land uses follow the California Air Resources Board’s Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective and NCAQMD recommendations.</p> <p><b>AQ-S4. Preservation and Replacement of On-site Trees.</b> Discretionary review projects which remove more than 50 trees of greater than <u>12 inches DBH</u> shall re-plant replacement trees on-site or provide offsetting carbon mitigations.</p>	<p><b>AQ-IM1. Review <u>Attainment Plan Revisions</u>.</b> Review local <u>Attainment Plan revisions</u> to guide future General Plan and Housing Element updates as necessary, and implement new land use and transportation policies and other regulatory controls <u>as identified by the attainment</u></p> <p><b>AQ-IM2. North Coast Air Quality Management Permitting Coordination.</b> The County shall maintain efficient and timely procedures for project referral to the North Coast Air Quality Management District for review and consultation.</p> <p><b>AQ-IM3. County-wide Climate Action Plan.</b> The County shall <u>develop and implement a Climate Action Plan</u> that effectively mitigates the carbon emissions attributable to this Plan, consistent with the requirements of the state Global Warming Solutions Act and subsequent implementing legislation and regulations.</p>

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<p><u>utilization</u> of excess forest biomass for sustainable energy generation <u>and other uses</u>.</p> <p><b>AQ-P12. Solar Electric System Capacity.</b> Encourage and provide incentives to increase solar-electric capacity in residential, commercial, and industrial sectors.</p> <p><b>AQ-P15. Preservation and Replacement of On-site Trees.</b> Projects requiring discretionary review should preserve large trees where possible and mitigate for carbon storage losses attributable to significant removal of trees.</p>		
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<b>AQ-G2. Particulate Emissions. Successful attainment of California Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter.</b>		
<b>Policies</b>	<b>Standards</b>	<b>Implementation Measures</b>
<p><b>AQ-P3. Fireplace and Woodstove PM10 Emissions.</b> Support incentives to minimize emissions from fireplaces and woodstoves.</p> <p><b>AQ-P4. Construction and Grading Dust Control.</b> Dust control practices on construction and grading sites shall achieve compliance with NCAQMD fugitive dust emission standards.</p> <p><b>AQ-P8. Reduce Air Quality Impacts from Wildfires.</b> Support and encourage fire suppression of wildfires that may have an acute air quality health impact on local population centers.</p>	<p><b>AQ-S1. Construction and Grading Dust Control.</b> Ground disturbing construction and grading shall employ fugitive dust control strategies to prevent visible emissions from exceeding NCAQMD regulations and prevent public nuisance.</p>	<p><b>AQ-IM6. Programs to Reduce Air Quality Impacts of Wildland Fires.</b> Support and encourage programs such as fuel reduction, prescribed fires, and vegetation management as recommended in the County’s Fire Plan to reduce air quality impacts of wildfires.</p> <p>AQ-IMx2. Reduce Air Quality Impacts from Surface Mining. <u>To reduce air quality impacts from asbestos and other pollutants, refer all discretionary review actions for new and existing rock quarries and other surface mining activities to the North Coast Air Quality Management District for review and recommendations.</u> <u>(Alternative A IM)</u></p>

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**AQ-G2x. Other Criteria Pollutants.** Maintain attainment of Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and other criteria pollutants which may be subject to tightening standards.

Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p><b>AQ-P13. Energy Efficient Building Design.</b> Encourage and provide incentives for construction of buildings and energy saving measures beyond Title 24 requirements for residential and commercial projects.</p> <p><b>AQ-P14. Electric Vehicle Accommodations.</b> Encourage and provide incentives for commercial and residential design that supports the charging of electric vehicles.</p>		

**AQ-G3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** Successful mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this Plan to levels of non-significance as established by the Global Warming Solutions Act and subsequent implementing legislation and regulations.

Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p><b>AQ-P1. Reduce Length and Frequency of Vehicle Trips.</b> Reduce the length and frequency of vehicle trips through land use and transportation policies by encouraging mixed-use development, compact development patterns in areas served by public transit.</p> <p><b>AQ-P9. County Climate Action Plan.</b> Develop and implement a multi-jurisdictional Climate Action Plan to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the state Global Warming Solutions Act and subsequent implementing legislation and regulations.</p> <p><b>AQ-P10. County Government Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions.</b> To lead by example, the County of Humboldt shall</p>	<p><b>AQ-Sx. Evaluate Greenhouse Gas Emission Impacts.</b> <u>During environmental review of large scale residential, commercial and industrial projects, include an assessment of the project's GHG emissions, and require feasible mitigation consistent with best practices documented by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association in their 2008 white paper "CEQA &amp; Climate Change" or successor documents. (Alternative A Standard)</u></p>	<p><b>AQ-IM4. County Government Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions.</b> The County shall prepare a Climate Action Plan for its governmental operations consistent with the Countywide Climate Action Plan that seeks emission reductions in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Energy Efficiency and Conservation</li> <li>B. Green Building</li> <li>C. Waste Reduction and Recycling</li> <li>D. Climate-Friendly Purchasing</li> <li>E. Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels</li> <li>F. Efficient Transportation</li> <li>G. Offsetting Carbon Emissions</li> <li>H. Promoting Community and Individual Action</li> </ul>

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reduce its 2003 greenhouse gas emissions from governmental operations consistent with the state Global Warming Solutions Act and subsequent implementing legislation and regulations.

**AQ-Px. Review of Projects for Greenhouse Gas Emission**

**Reductions.** The County shall evaluate the GHG emissions of new large scale residential, commercial and industrial projects, and require feasible mitigation measures to minimize GHG emissions.

(Alternative A Policy)

**AQ-Px1. Transfer of Development Rights.** The County shall encourage the transfer of development rights from resource lands and other rural areas into areas served with public water and sewer to reduce GHG emissions from new development. (Alternative A Policy)

**AQ-IM5. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** Update the General Plan and Land Use Ordinances as appropriate to reflect the adopted countywide Climate Action Plan and new state laws and regulations for greenhouse gas emissions when they become available.

**AQ-IMx. Review of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impacts of New Development.** Modify the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances to assess GHG emissions of large scale residential, commercial and industrial projects, and require feasible mitigation. (Alternative A Implementation Measure)

**AQ-IMx1. Transfer of Development Rights Program.** The County shall develop a voluntary transfer of development rights program which provides incentives to transfer entitlements from resource lands and other rural areas into areas served with public water and sewer to reduce GHG emissions from new development. (Alternative A Implementation Measure)