Is it worth it for communities to take part in the AB617 Process?  
. . . The Jury is still out, but you could make the difference!

What is AB617? Assembly Bill 617 (C. Garcia, 2017, the “Community Air Protection Act”) was adopted as a companion bill to justify extension of Cap & Trade (AB398 - much protested greenhouse gas trading allowing big polluters to pay to pollute instead of directly cleaning up fossil fuels in impacted communities). AB617 is supposed to fix this by cutting toxics & smog “co-pollutants” emitted at the same time as greenhouse gases, during burning or evaporating of fossil fuels in industry and transportation, especially in most impacted communities of color. Though we opposed it, now AB617 is in place, we are working to get as much pollution cleanup as we can. Some 617 concepts do include important measures community members have long sought, such as community-level plans to cut cumulative stationary, transportation, and other emissions. But only 10 communities in the state are proposed to get any plan the first year, and only 7 of these would get an emission reduction plan (the rest get only air monitoring plans). This is not enough – dozens of communities need such cleanup.

CalEnviroScreen mapping’s REDZONES show the most heavily disproportionately impacted communities for pollution and socioeconomic impacts. Communities of Color and low income communities are the most impacted.
What are CBE community members seeking?

- COMMUNITY SELECTION – Add Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) for:
  - Richmond
  - East Oakland
  - Southeast LA

- STATE BLUEPRINT – Need Oil Industry Requirements:
  - Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for existing Refinery Catalytic Cracking units – to drastically reduce deadly particulate matter responsible for thousands of additional deaths.1
  - Replace massive, polluting old Refinery Boilers & Heaters to meet BACT standards
  - Stop Expanding Oil Refineries
  - Develop a plan to Phaseout Oil Refineries by 2050
  - 2500 ft buffer zone from Oil Extraction to neighbors

What are some other communities seeking?

- COMMUNITY SELECTION – East Coachella is also seeking an emissions reduction plan.– This is a rural community and coalition partner in CEJA (the California Environmental Justice Alliance), a part of the South Coast Air Basin. Heavily impacted rural communities frequently are left out of receiving enough monitoring and pollution reduction measures.

- The state list should include far more than 7 communities for emissions plans- dozens of communities needing cleanup throughout the state have sought emissions reduction plans

What can you do?

⇒ COME TO THE HEARING in Sacramento, 9AM Thursday, Sept. 27 when the state will consider whether to adopt their staff’s proposed “Blueprint” to implement AB617 and set communities receiving emissions reduction plans the first year:
  California Air Resource Board, Byron Sher Auditorium, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA

⇒ Ask the Board to include a longer list receiving Community Emission Reduction Plan – adding Richmond, East Oakland, Southeast Los Angeles, East Coachella, AND MORE!

⇒ Ask the Board to clean up oil refineries, implement Zero Emission transportation, address cumulative impacts from small stationary sources, and start a plan to Phase Down Oil Refineries!

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1 BAAQMD 2017 SIP documentation estimates 2,000–3,000 premature deaths annually due to PM2.5 exposures, with the refinery FCC the biggest source in the highest emitting industry under BAAQMD jurisdiction for PM2.5 but FCC emissions alone are not responsible for all of that death estimate.