



Eastern Kern

Air Pollution Control District

Gary Ray, Jr.
Air Pollution Control Officer

July 23, 2026

Board of Directors
Eastern Kern APCD
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302
Bakersfield, California 93301

SUBJECT: Appointment of Hearing Board Member

Honorable Board:

The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) currently has two vacancies on the Hearing Board. The Hearing Board presides over variances, abatements, and permit appeals. During the District's solicitation for the opening, Ms. Maya Lopez Grasse contacted the District to be considered for one of the vacant positions. Ms. Lopez Grasse's appointment would not conflict with the California Health and Safety Code (CH&SC) §40802.

Ms. Lopez Grasse is currently a practicing California attorney, who specializes in environmental law - primarily land use and environmental regulatory compliance. Ms. Lopez Grasse resides in Tehachapi but most of the clients she represents are in the Los Angeles and central valley areas. Ms. Lopez Grasse does not represent any clients within Eastern Kern, so there will be no conflict of interest by serving on the Hearing Board. District Staff had an in depth conversation with Ms. Lopez Grasse, and based on her knowledge and willingness to be a Hearing Board Member, Staff recommend her for appointment.

This will be a regular appointment. Normal tenure of a Hearing Board Member is 3 years. Therefore, the District is recommending Ms. Lopez Grasse have a normal 3-year tenure (ending on July 23, 2029).

IT IS RECOMMENDED your Board appoint Ms. Maya Lopez Grasse to the Hearing Board for a three-year term, ending July 23, 2029.

Sincerely,

Gary Ray, Jr.
Air Pollution Control Officer

GR: JC: CB