Air Quality Planning
Under AB 617

presented to
Mother Lode Chapter, AWMA

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Fundamentals of Air Quality Planning

- Air quality regulatory structure in California
- Elements of the air quality planning process
  - Pre-AB 617
  - Pursuant to AB 617

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Air Quality Regulatory Structure in California

National

- ✓ Adopt national ambient air quality standards
- ✓ Approve and enforce state air quality plans
- ✓ Oversee stationary source enforcement
- ✓ Serve as stationary source permitting agency of last resort
- ✓ Regulate mobile sources

State

- ✓ Adopt state ambient air quality standards
- ✓ Prepare air quality plans; assemble and submit plans to US EPA
- ✓ Regulate mobile sources (except where pre-empted by US EPA)
- ✓ Oversee stationary source enforcement
- ✓ Designate and regulate toxic air contaminants
- ✓ Regulate consumer products

Local

- ✓ Prepare air quality plans
- ✓ Regulate stationary sources
- ✓ Implement/enforce state regulations for toxic air contaminants
- ✓ Regulate mobile/indirect sources (limited authority)

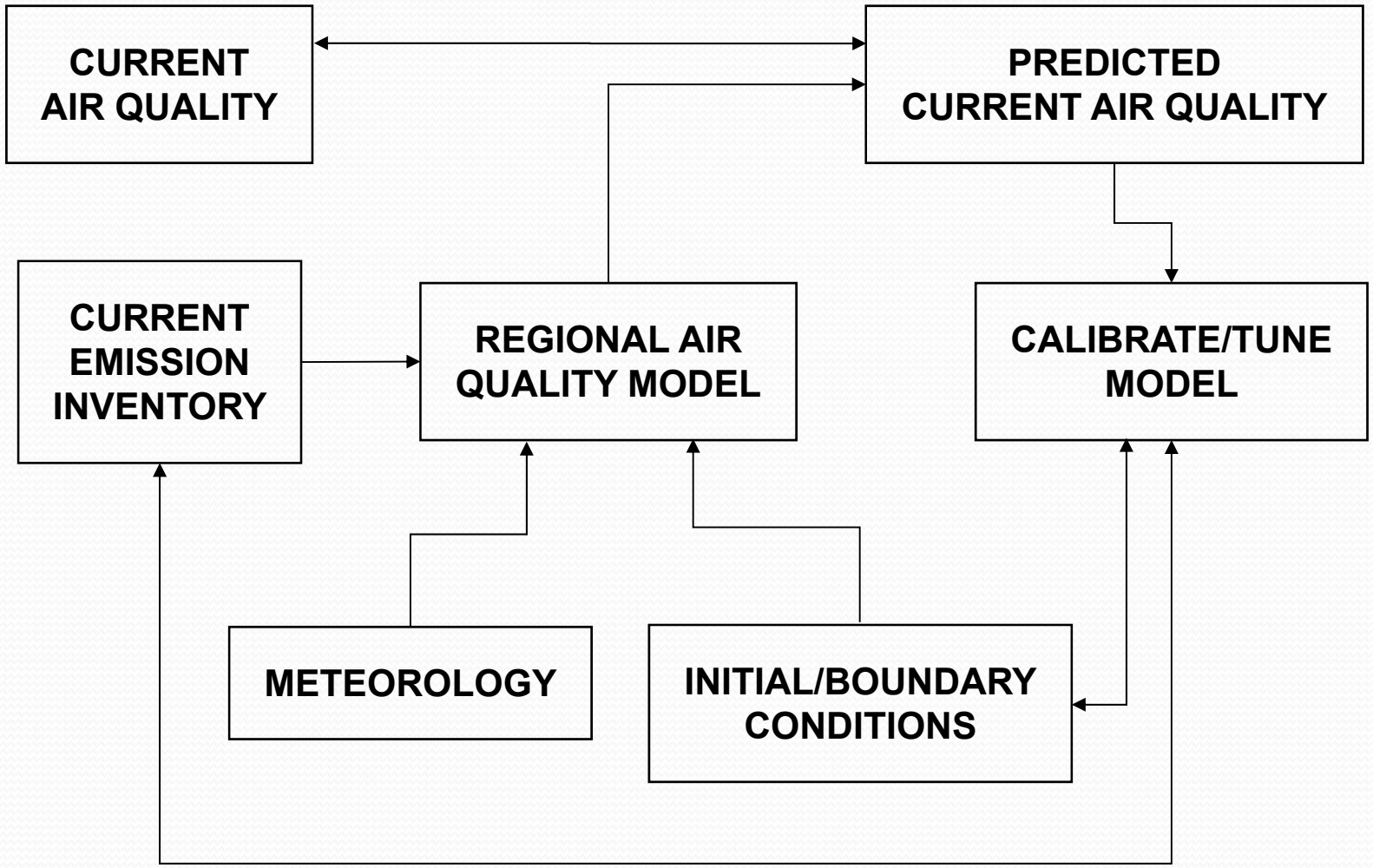
Air Quality Planning (Pre-AB 617)

- Establish health-based ambient air quality standards (future goal)
- Determine baseline/current air quality levels (ambient monitoring)
- Determine baseline/current emission rates (emissions inventory)
- Determine relationship between baseline/current emissions and baseline/current air quality levels (regional air quality models)
- Predict future emission rates (emission inventory forecast)

Air Quality Planning (cont'd) (Pre-AB 617)

- Predict future air quality levels (regional air quality models)
- Determine reduced emission rates needed to achieve ambient air quality standards (carrying capacity) using iterations of emission inventory changes and regional air quality modeling
- Determine techniques needed to reduce emission rates to the carrying capacity (control measures) (divide the pie and allocate responsibility for reductions)

Air Quality Planning - Initial Setup



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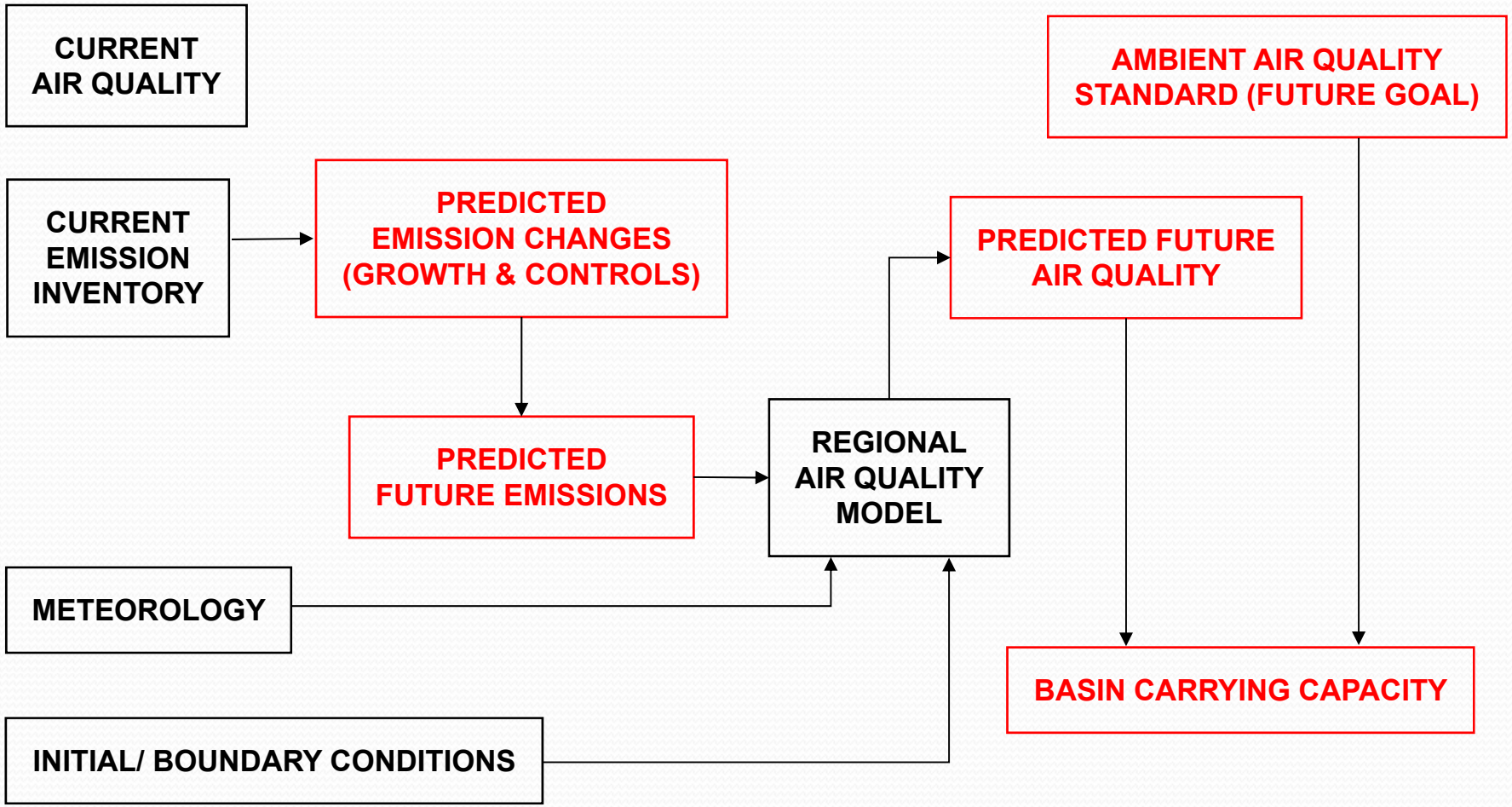
Air Quality Planning - Initial Forecasts



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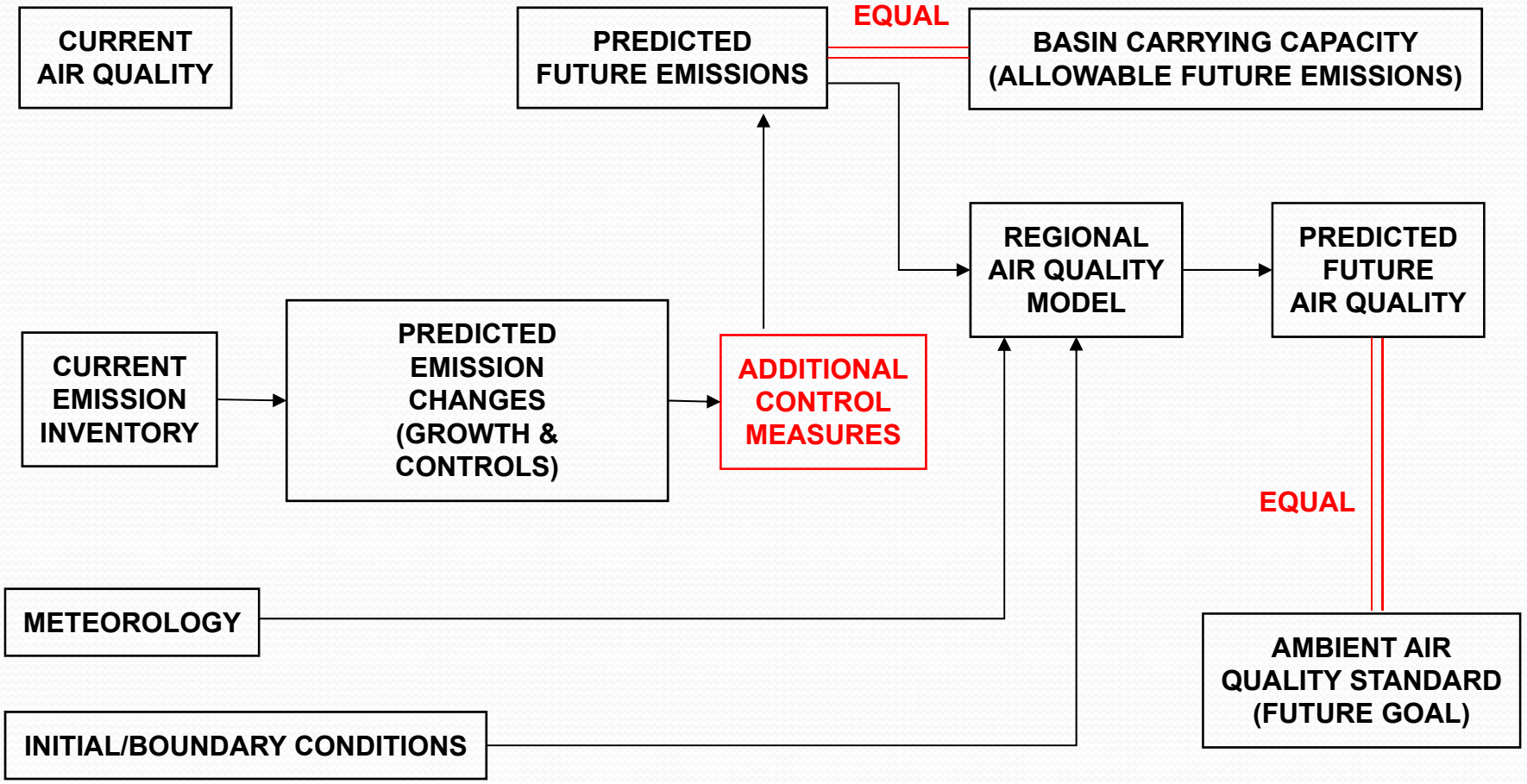
Air Quality Planning - Compliance Forecasts



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Overview of AB 617

- Requires ARB to establish a uniform system for reporting annual emissions of criteria pollutants and air toxics for specified stationary sources.
- Requires statewide BARCT retrofits for specified stationary sources.
- Requires ARB to create and maintain a statewide clearinghouse for BACT and BARCT
- Increases fines for air pollution-related violations
- Establishes a new paradigm for air quality planning to supplement (not replace) existing air quality planning requirements.

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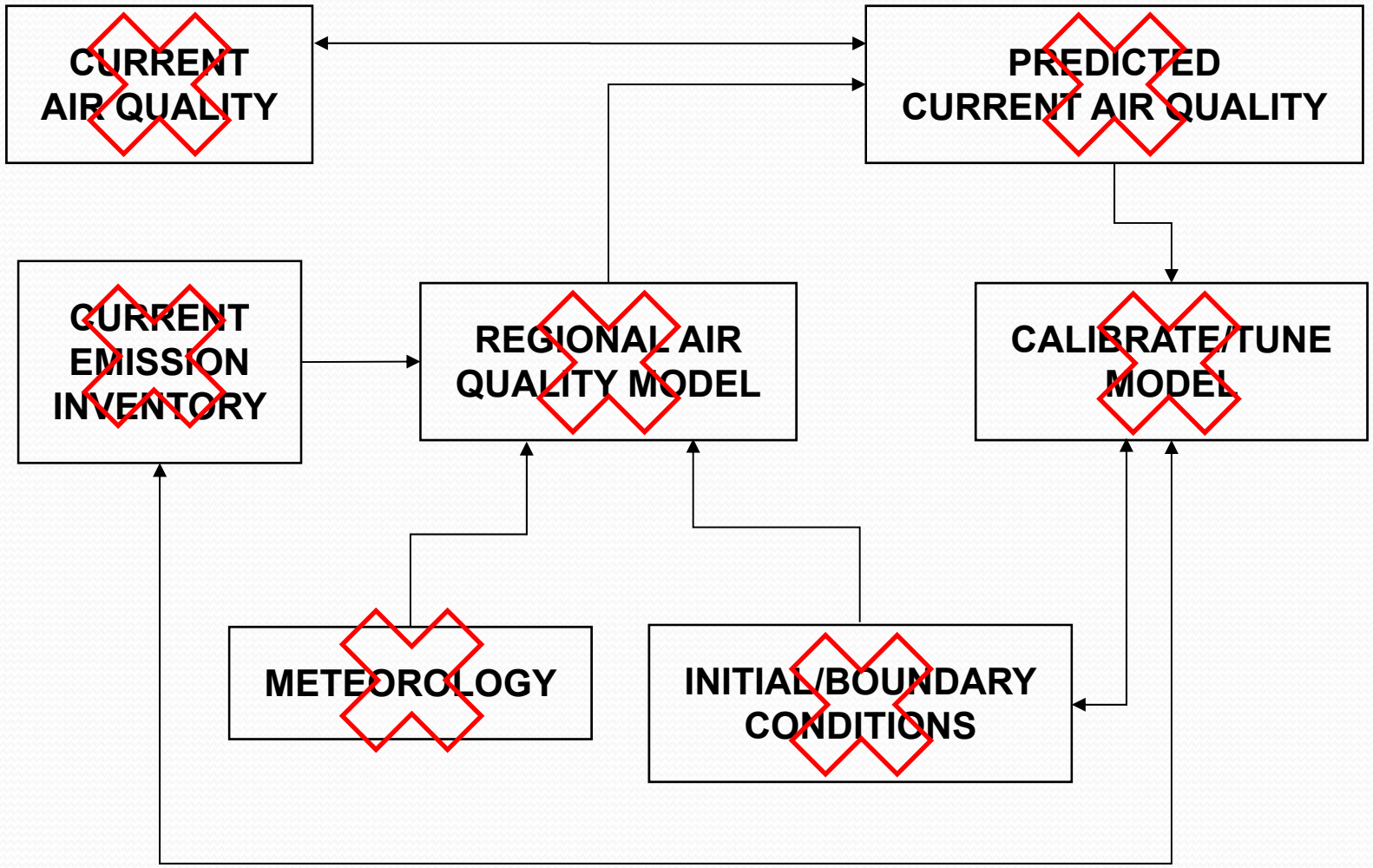
AB 617: Air Quality Planning - Initial Setup



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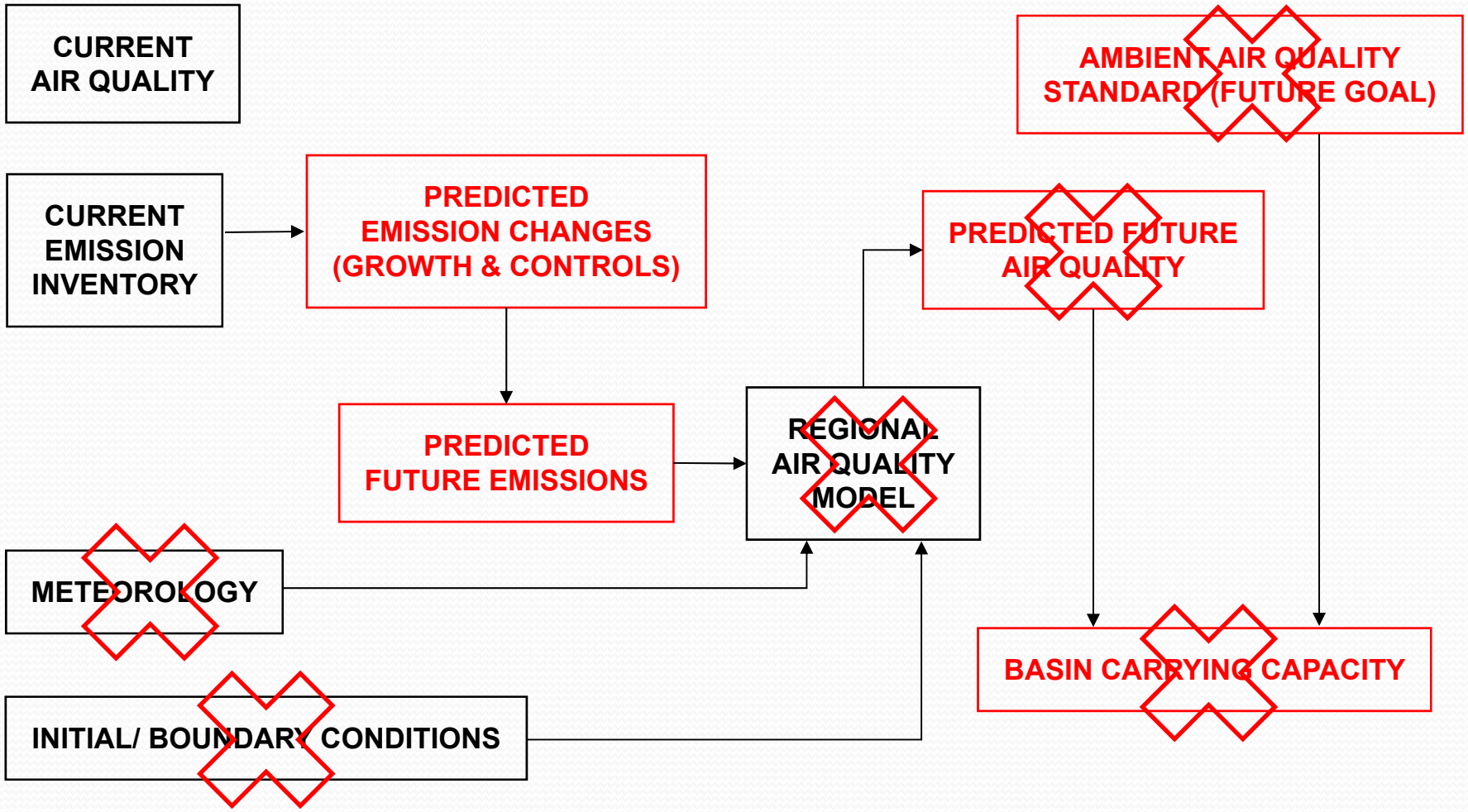
AB 617: Air Quality Planning - Initial Forecasts



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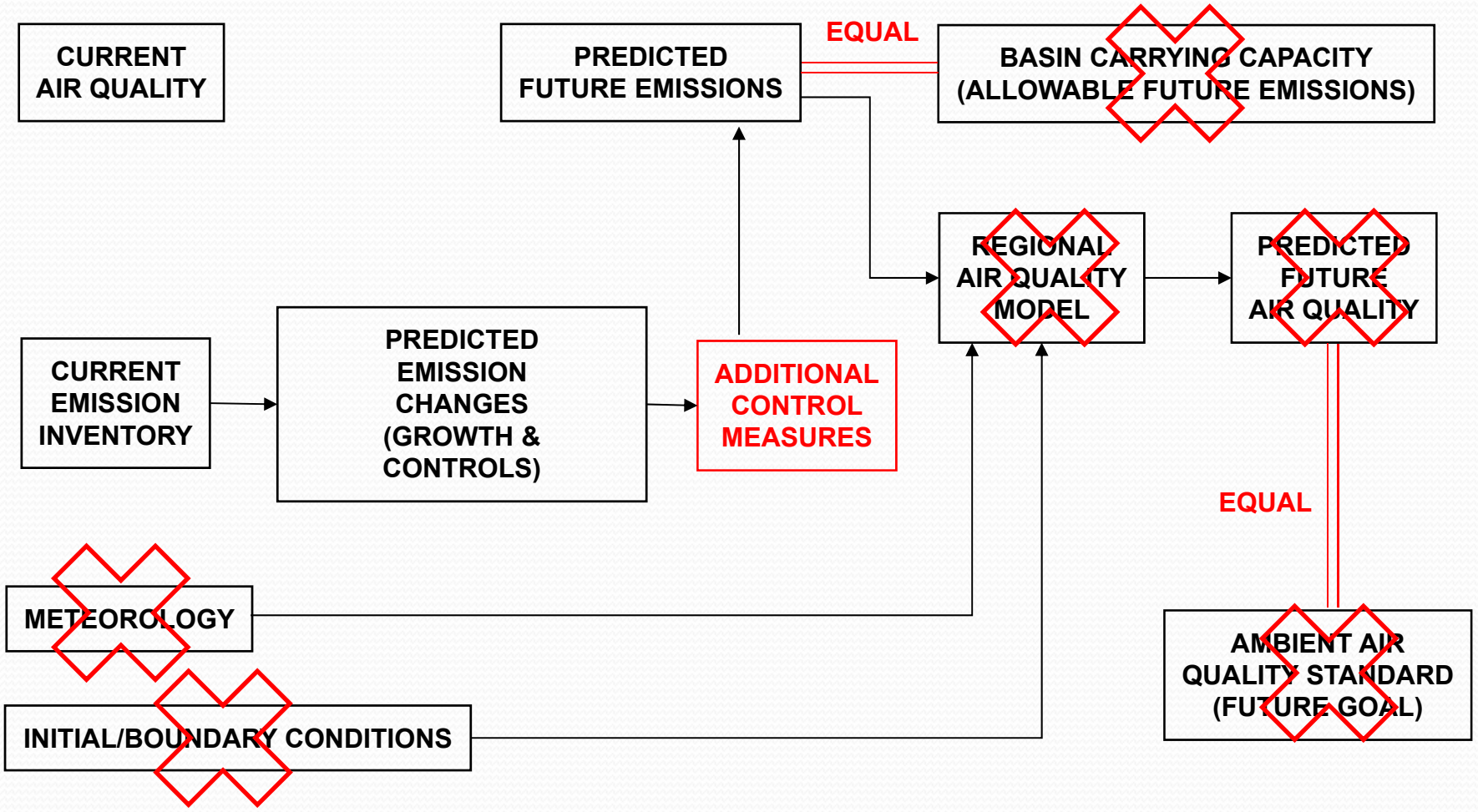
AB 617: Air Quality Planning - Compliance Forecasts



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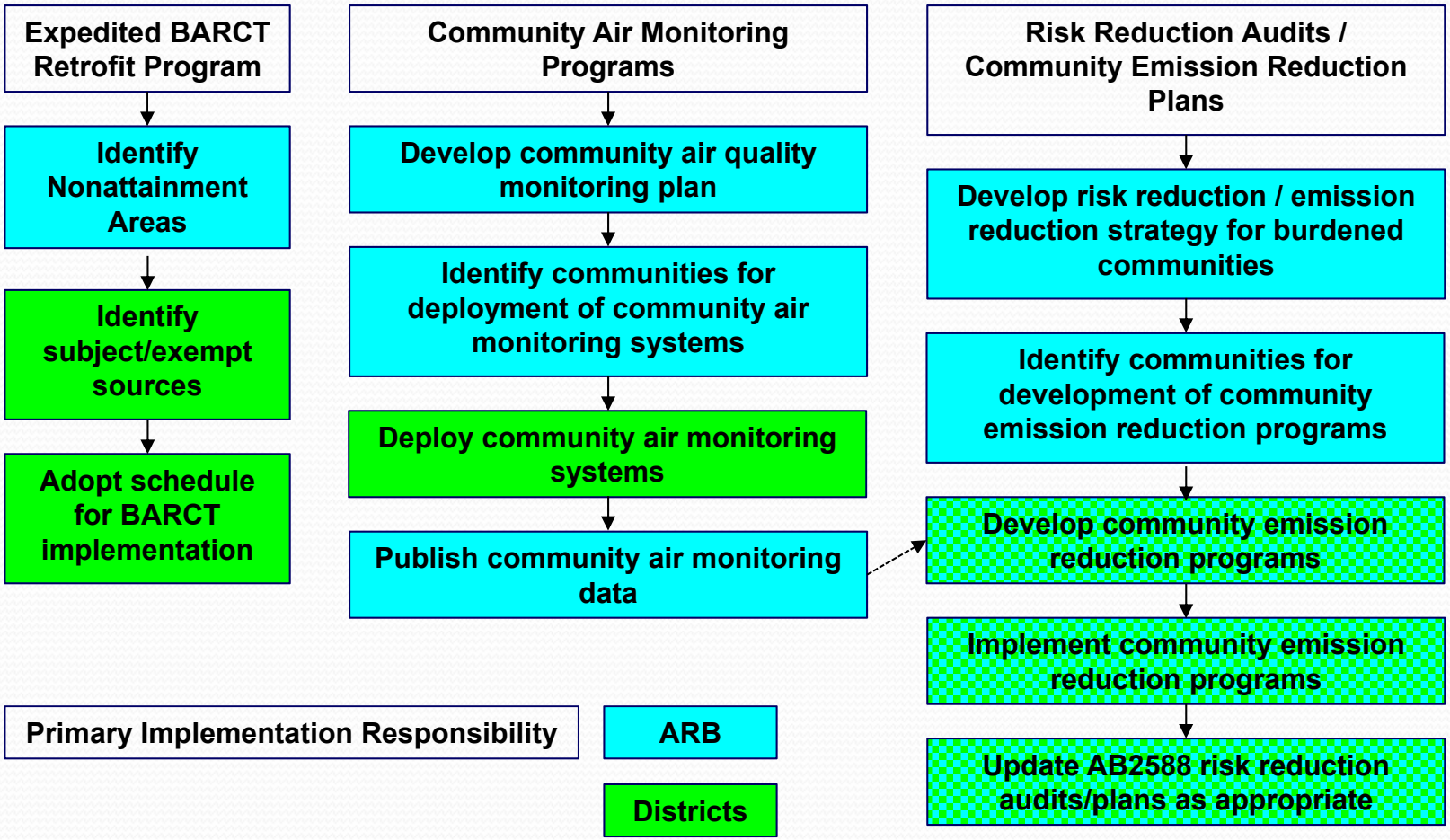
Air Quality Planning Under AB 617
Community Air Monitoring

- Develop community air quality monitoring plan. (ARB)
- Identify communities for deployment of community air monitoring systems. (ARB, based on consultation with Districts)
- Deploy community air monitoring systems. (Districts)
- Publish community air monitoring data. (ARB)

Air Quality Planning Under AB 617
Risk Reduction Audits/Emission Reduction Plans

- Develop risk reduction/emission reduction strategy for burdened communities. (ARB)
- Identify communities for development of community emission reduction programs. (ARB, based on consultation with Districts and others)
- Develop community emission reduction programs. (Districts)
- Implement community emission reduction programs. (ARB and Districts)
- Update AB 2588 risk reduction audits/plans as appropriate. (Districts)

AB 617: Air Quality Planning



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Conclusions

- Traditional air quality planning is goal-oriented; AB 617 planning is mandate-oriented, with no quantitative goals established.
- Traditional air quality planning is a sequential process with a feedback loop; AB 617 planning involves several independent courses of action, with no clear feedback mechanisms established.
- In theory, traditional air quality planning can declare "success" when ambient air quality standards are met, and a maintenance plan is in effect. Under AB 617, there is always more that can be done.