

Highlights

District Activities for June 2006



June 15, 2006 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Governing Board adopted new **Rule 4570 (Confined Animal Facilities)**. This groundbreaking rule requires CAF operators to implement a specified number of management practices and controls for each area within a CAF by selecting methods or controls from those listed in the rule that best fit their operations to achieve the required VOC emissions reductions. The rule also has a built-in flexibility that allows for implementation of new technologies and innovative methods of reducing pollution. Upon implementation, the rule will reduce VOC emissions generated by these facilities by 28 percent, or 21 tons per day, and reduce ammonia emissions from these sources up to 46 percent, or 131 tons per day.
- The Governing Board adopted amendments to **Rule 4311 (Flares)**, which changed the applicability of this rule from sources that emit at least 25 tons per year of either VOC or NO_x to sources that emit at least 10 tons per year of either VOC or NO_x. The rule requires affected sources to apply RACT level controls, as required by the US EPA.
- The Governing Board adopted the Proposed State Contingency Addendum for the San Joaquin Valley **PM₁₀ State Implementation Plan (SIP)**. It will now be forwarded to the ARB and then to the EPA for approval.
- The Governing Board received and filed the following items, and set August 17 for public hearings to consider their adoption:
 - Amendments to **Rule 4703 (Stationary Gas Turbines)**.
 - Amendments to **Rule 4354 (Glass Melting Furnaces)**.
 - **Eight-hour Ozone** Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) SIP Analysis.
- The Governing Board also approved three agreements relating to **air-quality research** and analysis. The first, with the ARB in the amount of \$49,960, will be used to cooperatively fund agricultural research to enhance emission inventory. An \$88,820 agreement with Eastern Research Group, Inc. will develop control profiles to use in estimating area, point and mobile source emissions. Additionally, a \$193,000 contract with Atmospheric Analysis and Consulting, Inc., will provide for laboratory analysis of non-methane organic and carbonyl compounds.
- The Governing Board adopted a final budget of \$89,763,700 for fiscal year 2006-07.
- A budget resolution was approved to increase the 2005-06 District budget by \$1,544,845 to appropriate funds received from the air mitigation agreement with Castle and Cooke.

Public Information, Legislative, Outreach and Education

Public Information responded to 51 news media inquiries and 155 public calls in May. Five news releases were issued. Topics included: a high-wind health alert, Spare the Air, Air Quality Awareness Week, 2007 Clean Air Kids' Calendar and the selection of Rick McVaigh as Deputy APCO. Public Info staff also participated in events commemorating Clean Air Month and many other outreach activities throughout the District.

Spare the Air season got off to a sizzling start June 6 with temperatures above normal throughout the District, but no Spare the Air days had been called as of June 15. More than 700 businesses, manufacturers and municipalities are signed up as Spare the Air Employer Partners and will help notify thousands of employees when a Spare the Air day is called. The radio and outdoor components of the multi-lingual, multi-media campaign began in June. Television ads will start in July. Spare the Air season runs from June through September. Spare the Air alerts are called when the AQI is forecast to reach 151.

Residents in Bakersfield, Visalia and Fresno greeted the first three **lawn mower trade-ins** with enthusiasm as nearly 500 gas-fueled mowers were traded in for Neuton cordless electric mowers. Two trade-ins remain: Merced on June 17 and Stockton on June 24. The District, in partnership with California ARB, Valley Clean Air Now, Operation Clean Air and Neuton, made this year's Clean Green Yard Machine 60 percent discount on a \$379 Neuton mower possible.

Grant and Incentive Program Activities

- The District received 13 ag Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) applications in May. A total of 24 engines were included in those applications. To date, the District has received 219 applications totaling 785 engines. This year, 179 engines have been funded at \$3,119,740 resulting in NOx emission reductions of 4,297,008 lbs.
- \$20,200 in heavy-duty component REMOVE II grant funds was placed under contract in May. \$1,798,522 was paid out in Heavy-Duty Program component claims in May.

AG Engines - 27	\$ 569,170
Off Road - 8	\$ 197,515
On-Road - 8	\$1,031.837

Operation Overview

- **Compliance** conducted 1,969 inspections in May and issued 93 NOVs. 162 cases were settled.
- **Permits** received 278 applications and issued 784 permits in May.
- **Planning** received 228 environmental documents and held eight rule and plan workshops in May. Two rules were adopted and 72 smoking vehicles were reported.

Other District News

Management held the first of three annual regional all-staff meetings on June 13 in the Central office. District APCO Seyed Sadredin reviewed the agency's "Vision, Expectations and Values" and presented the District's challenges and priorities for the next few years.

Deputy APCO Rick McVaigh talked about the purpose and value of the STAR (**S**ervice – **T**eamwork – **A**ttitude – **R**espect) program. Staff also had a chance to ask questions during the open floor session. All-staff meetings are scheduled for 10 am June 27 in the Southern region and 10 am June 30 in the Northern office.

Upcoming Meetings

The Governing Board and the Citizens' Advisory Committee are not scheduled to meet in July.