

District Highlights

January 20, 2011 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Governing Board adopted the **2011 Legislative Platform**. The document provides guidance on state and federal legislative and regulatory actions and reflects the District's air quality issue priorities. Included in current priorities are (1) the repeal or modification of the non-attainment penalties for the now-revoked federal 1-hour ozone standard (2) reasonable implementation of state and federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (3) addressing concerns about the new trend of near-roadway air quality monitoring (4) developing and promoting cost-effective alternatives to ag burning (5) promoting energy efficiency/alternative energy (6) obtaining additional incentive funding to help in our fight against air pollution (7) Air Quality and Health Empowerment Zone designation (8) ensuring air quality is a priority in federal transportation bill re-authorization (9) curbing wildfires and associated adverse public health impacts (10) ensuring that climate change mandates can be efficiently implemented and do not adversely impact public health (11) funding for agricultural air quality efforts in the federal farm bill.
- The Board approved the transfer of \$144,258 in **Carl Moyer program funds** from the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District to fund diesel emission reduction projects in the Valley. In recent program audits, the Valley Air District was commended for its effective use of Carl Moyer funds. Several policies were highlighted as "best practices" and recommended for use in other air districts.
- The recently completed **2010 Report to the Community** was distributed. The 48-page report details the challenges faced by the District, provides an update on our journey to cleaner air, reviews the accomplishments of the past year, and highlights the contributions of Valley industry. Copies are available in District offices or online at www.valleyair.org.
- The Board accepted \$183,661 from the California Air Resources Board for the District's **Clean Green Yard Machine** program, bringing the total for the next phase of this successful lawnmower replacement program to \$783,661. Last fall, the District distributed discount vouchers to residents in every Valley county to replace over 2,100 gas-powered mowers with new cordless electric models at substantially reduced prices. However, demand for new mowers outpaced available funding and resulted in long waiting lists. This additional funding will provide vouchers for more residents to trade in their old mowers for clean, electric Neuton mowers.
- The Board approved a \$64,000 agreement with the American Lung Association in California to expand the **Air Quality Flag Program** and for further development of the Real Time Air Advisory Network (**RAAN**). As of 2010, the flag program was in use in 700 Valley schools. The ALAC anticipates adding an additional 470 schools in next 18 months.

December District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- **2011 Clean Air Kids' Calendars distributed Valley-wide.** Close to 20,000 calendars have been distributed to District schools, libraries, hospitals, government offices and organizations. The popular calendars feature colorful drawings with a clean-air message by 14 schoolchildren from all of the eight counties covered by the District.
- **Real-time air alerts help schools schedule outdoor activities.** The District's pilot program of real-time air quality updates for schools helps administrators and coaches determine if students should be allowed outside for athletic events, recess and other activities. RAAN (Real-time Air Advisory Network) is the nation's first pollution alert network. Through e-mail, text messages and online

updates, teachers, students and parents are notified about air quality levels near their school site. Sign up for RAAN at www.valleyair.org.

- In December, staff responded to 111 public calls and 19 media calls, and issued four news releases on the first Technology Advancement Program awards, holiday wood burning, the first District-wide wood-burning curtailment of the season, and the court ruling in the District's favor on the Indirect Source Review rule.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- Applications are still being accepted and more applicants are now eligible for a new District incentive program that replaces off-road agricultural tractors. The **Agricultural Off-road Tractor Replacement program** application period runs through Jan. 31. For criteria or other information, contact the Strategies and Incentives program at 559-230-5800.
- The District received 345 incentive program applications in December, of which 174 were for the Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change Out Program. \$50,900 in Wood Stove Change Out Program claims was paid and 83 claims were processed.
- \$6,007,847.12 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract in December. \$7,148,940.28 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims and \$19,871 in REMOVE II Program claims were paid.

Component	Number of Claims	Amount Paid
Ag Engine	49	\$ 873,577.76
Ag-UTV	4	\$ 9,298.00
Forklift	1	\$ 6,843.13
Off-Road	13	\$ 343,401.84
On-Road	14	\$ 129,693.00
On-Road Prop 1B	76	\$ 3,800,000.00
On-Road VIP	5	\$ 175,000.00
School Bus Replacement	4	\$ 409,966.97
School Bus Retrofit	184	\$ 1,401,159.58

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

- NOx 892
 - PM 43
 - ROG 8
- Total: 943

December Operations Overview

- **The District** received 138 environmental documents for review in December.
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 22 smoking vehicle reports.
- **Compliance** completed 2,331 inspections, issued 436 NOVS and finalized 237 mutual settlement cases.
- **Permits** received 152 applications in December. 898 permits were issued.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*
9 a.m. Thurs., 2/17/11

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10 a.m. Tues., 2/1/11

Environmental Justice Adv. Group
5:30 pm Tues., 1/25/11

Meetings are held in the Governing Board Room in the Fresno office and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Details: www.valleyair.org

*Meetings are webcast.