

# District Highlights

## August 20, 2015 Actions by the Governing Board

### **Record-breaking Clean Summer Ozone Season – Outreach Enlisting Public Action to Cut Air Pollution and Continue Clean Ozone Trend During Critical Last Weeks of Summer**

As we approach the end of summer, the San Joaquin Valley is on the verge of completing a record setting clean air season for ozone. This is unprecedented given the severe drought, strings of triple digit temperatures and multiple wildfires impacting the Valley. As we approach the beginning of the school season, maintaining this clean air pace requires diligence by the public in minimizing vehicular emissions associated with back to school traffic.

Through the month of July, the 2015 ozone season air quality in the air basin is on track to be the best in the recorded air quality history of the Valley. In fact, July 2015 alone recorded the best air quality for the month of July in the history of monitoring air quality in the Valley with zero violations of the 84 ppb 8-hour ozone standard anywhere in the Valley for 26 days. These improvements would not be possible without the success of the District's control strategy through its various attainment planning efforts, its robust incentive programs, and the commitment from the Valley's stakeholders in doing their part to reduce emissions as much as possible.

In mid-August the District began this year's ozone season public messaging campaign which will intensify and continue through September urging the public to take action to minimize vehicular and other polluting activities. The District will also issue Air Alerts if high peak ozone concentrations are anticipated. The theme for this year's ozone season messaging will be "We the People" and will be disseminated through various means. Outreach will be conducted primarily in English and Spanish with limited Hmong and Punjabi. The District will coordinate outreach with the media to secure on-camera interviews, hold press conferences, and leverage public affairs to discuss Air Alerts and the importance of driving less during this key time of year.

### **District Receives New Grant Funds for the Replacement of Valley Agricultural Tractors**

The Governing Board accepted and appropriated an award of \$1,000,000 in Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) incentive funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to replace approximately 75 agricultural tractors through a highly-competitive selection process. Due to the District's reputation for administering successful and effective voluntary incentive programs, the District was awarded almost half of the \$2,140,000 available for all of EPA Region 9, which includes California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii and the Pacific Islands. To administer this program, the District will use its existing Agricultural Tractor Replacement Program, which has successfully provided over \$80 million in funding in partnership with Valley growers to replace more than 2,200 Valley-based agricultural tractors with new, cleaner tractors.

### **Board Approves the Distribution of the District's S.T.A.R. (Service, Teamwork, Attitude and Respect) Work Culture Outreach Brochure to Other Government Agencies**

The District Governing Board has recognized the effectiveness of the District's STAR work culture in consistently leading to outstanding customer service, great productivity and efficiency, doing more with less, reduced cost and waste, innovation and creativity, entrepreneurial management with a competitive spirit, being the first and the best, and motivated and engaged

employees. The Board and many Valley stakeholders have also expressed interest in sharing the District's work culture with other agencies.

At the May 2015 Study Session, the Board reviewed and approved the STAR outreach document to serve as a vehicle for introducing STAR and beginning a dialogue with agencies that might be interested. The final version of this document was approved by the Board and is ready for distribution to other interested parties through various means.

## July District Activities

### **Outreach and Communications**

- The District spent July producing the 2015 Summer "We the People" Healthy Air Living outreach campaign. This campaign is focused on encouraging Valley residents to make voluntary decisions such as Trip Linking, Not Idling a Vehicle, Driving Less and Taking the Bus.
- In July, District staff responded to 27 media calls and 101 public calls and emails, issued five news releases and attended 7 events and presentations.

### **Grant and Incentive Programs**

- In July, the District received 328 incentive program applications. 85 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 28 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In July, \$2,272,893 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and 15 claims were paid.
- In July, \$453,829 was paid out in REMOVE II program claims.
- In July, \$160,621 was paid in Burn Cleaner program claims and 95 claims were processed.

July 2015	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts sent out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Claims paid	Sum of Grant Funding
Heavy Duty	28	106	\$2,272,893.50	150	\$3,845,731.28	15	\$575,598.24
School Bus	2	12	\$423,130.36	13	\$453,060.93	1	\$80,212.83
On-Road Prop 1B	0	4	\$170,000.00	11	\$1,850,000.00	28	\$1,180,000.00
Lawn and Garden	9	10	\$1,849.00	10	\$1,849.00	2	\$400.00
REMOVE	199	468	\$763,494.64	468	\$755,805.64	586	\$453,829.98
Burn Cleaner	85	65	\$98,500.00	65	\$98,500.00	95	\$160,621.41
Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Public Benefit	5	18	\$1,051,843.93	29	\$1,666,213.14	1	\$258,775.78
<b>Totals</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>\$4,781,711.43</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>\$8,671,159.99</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>\$2,709,438.24</b>

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
543	40	66	649

Smoking Vehicles	13
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## Operations Overview

- Completed 4266 inspections in July, and 168 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 147.
- Received 183 permit applications in July, and 246 permits were issued.
- Received 13 smoking vehicle reports in July.
- Received 124 environmental documents in July.

## As no highlights were distributed in July below are the... June District Activities

### Outreach and Communications

- The District worked to establish a wildfire resource webpage with educational videos to be prepared for the summer wildfire season. The District also launched the Web-based Archived Air Quality (WAAQ) System tool that gives Valley residents the ability to compare historical air quality levels for their neighborhood.
- In June, District staff responded to 18 media calls and 81 public calls and emails, issued three news releases and attended 3 events and presentations.

### Grant and Incentive Programs

- In June, the District received 304 incentive program applications. 58 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 53 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In June, \$5,557,049 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and 180 claims were paid.
- In June, \$1,189,963 was paid out in REMOVE II program claims.
- In June, \$438,199 was paid in Burn Cleaner program claims and 266 claims were processed.

June 2015	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts sent out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Claims paid	Sum of Grant Funding
Heavy Duty	53	136	\$5,557,049.19	87	\$3,750,695.17	180	\$8,867,049.88
School Bus	31	8	\$223,859.70	3	\$89,620.33	58	\$1,942,215.24
On-Road Prop 1B	0	8	\$1,715,000.00	14	\$1,945,000.00	123	\$4,988,300.00
Lawn and Garden	26	38	\$8,163.53	38	\$8,163.53	49	\$10,512.53
REMOVE	130	401	\$1,984,943.40	401	\$1,984,943.40	7,017	\$1,189,963.94
Burn Cleaner	58	72	\$119,500.00	72	\$119,500.00	266	\$438,199.09
Technology Advancement	0	1	\$171,044.00	1	\$171,044.00	0	\$0.00
Public Benefit	6	34	\$1,731,959.43	10	\$425,183.83	48	\$1,586,116.44
<b>Totals</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>\$11,511,519.25</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>\$8,494,150.26</b>	<b>7,741</b>	<b>\$19,022,357.12</b>

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
42,981	43	30	43,054

Smoking Vehicles	17
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## **Operations Overview**

- Completed 3082 inspections in June. 189 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 202.
- Received 283 applications in June. 289 permits were issued.
- Received 17 smoking vehicle reports in June.
- Received 175 environmental documents in June.

## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Governing Board\***  
9:00 a.m. Sept. 17, 2015

**Citizens Advisory Committee\***  
10:00 a.m. Oct. 6, 2015

**Enviro. Justice Adv. Grp.**  
5:30 p.m. Oct. 22, 2015

*Meetings are held in the Fresno office Governing Board Room and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Details: [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) \*Webcast*