

District Highlights

April 19, 2018 Actions by the Governing Board

Continued Success of Residential Wood Burning Emissions Reduction Strategy during 2017-2018 Wood Burning Season

The Governing Board heard a comprehensive report on the 2017-2018 Check Before You Burn season. This marked the fourth season since the 2014 amendment to the wood-burning rule, which significantly increased the number of no-burn days for high polluting wood-burning devices, and allowed for a substantial increase in burn days for clean wood-burning devices. Although the Valley experienced notably clean air quality in the months of November, January, and February, the month of December 2017 was heavily impacted by both long periods of poor dispersion and smoke from the record breaking Thomas Fire in southern California.

Despite the periods of strong atmospheric stability and wildfire impacts during this past winter, the Valley's air quality was still much better compared to what it could have been without the District's PM2.5 control strategy. A comprehensive analysis of the efficacy of the PM2.5 control strategy demonstrated that that air quality this past winter in Fresno was 51% better than what it could have been without the District's strategy in place. This analysis indicated that Modesto and Bakersfield also experienced similar air quality improvements. In advance of this past 2017-2018 winter season, and through continued emissions reductions, the Valley also set new air quality records in the calendar year 2017, which recorded declining PM2.5 design values and a record low number of days exceeding the 84 ppb 8-hour ozone standard, leading to the Valley's lowest 8-hour ozone design value on record.

This winter season also included the successful implementation of the Burn Cleaner program with over \$3.4 million in funding for over 2,000 vouchers issued for residents to upgrade to clean wood-burning devices during 2017-18. This past winter saw another successful Check Before You Burn outreach campaign, with Valley residents expressing significant interest in air quality and the District responding to nearly 600 public calls regarding wood burning activity, device registration, incentives and daily wood burning status, and 578 complaints for suspected wood-burning activity. The success of this past winter season would not have been possible without the commitment from Valley residents to reduce their wood-burning emissions, coupled with the District's multi-faceted program that utilizes wood-burning curtailments, incentives, public education/outreach, and strong enforcement to reduce wood smoke.

District Governing Board Accepts \$8,000,000 in New Funding to Replace Older Valley Trucks

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$8,000,000 in funding from the California Energy Commission to replace older, high-polluting trucks in the San Joaquin Valley. The funding will be utilized in the District's highly-successful Truck Replacement Program which, to date, has replaced more than 1,770 older, high-polluting trucks with new, cleaner vehicles. This grant will provide funding to replace an additional 80 trucks. The District has gained a reputation for administering successful and effective voluntary incentive programs and is consistently lauded for its efficiency and fiscal accountability. This reputation is a key factor in the District's success in bringing significant new incentive funding to the Valley.

District Governing Board Accepts \$1,000,000 in State Funding to Pilot Innovative Truck Repair Program

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$1,000,000 in funding from the California Air Resources Board to develop and administer a first-of-its-kind pilot program to provide emissions-related repairs for heavy-duty trucks in the San Joaquin Valley. To assist the state in developing potential legislative options for implementing a SMOG check or emission control measure for trucks this year, ARB approached the District to develop and administer this pilot program in the Valley. This proposed program focuses on single owner-operators and truck fleets with 20 or fewer vehicles, as these small fleets are less likely able to afford these needed emissions-related repairs. The District will partner with Valley-based repair facilities to develop criteria for participation and report on the outcome of the pilot program.

District Governing Board Accepts \$1,285,829 in State Funding to Replace Off-road Equipment in the Valley

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$1,285,829 in funding from the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to replace off-road equipment in the San Joaquin Valley. Each year, ARB reserves up to 10% of the total statewide Carl Moyer Program allocation to directly fund Moyer-eligible projects. This year ARB directed this Moyer State Reserve funding to replace off-road equipment. Through a highly competitive statewide solicitation, the District was awarded nearly \$1.3 million in funding to replace off-road equipment through the District’s existing Heavy-duty Engine Incentive Program.

March District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- The District spent March deploying two RAAN READs as well as gearing up for Earth Day. The District also spent March hosting AB617 workshops to gain the public’s opinion.
- In March, District staff responded to 6 media calls and 35 public calls and 53 emails, issued one news release and attended 7 event/presentations.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- In March, the District received 730 incentive program applications. 214 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 187 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In March, \$6,360,653.17 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and 202 claims were paid.
- In March, \$1,423,113.38 was paid out in REMOVE II program claims.
- In March, \$471,022.00 was paid in Burn Cleaner program claims and 294 claims were processed.

	March 2018	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
Key	Program	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
Burn Cleaner	Burn Cleaner - Wood Stove Change Out	214	212	\$360,500.00	212	\$360,500.00	294	\$471,022.00
Heavy Duty	Ag Engine	5	4	\$77,071.00	2	\$98,000.00	7	\$64,304.46
	Forklift	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$9,603.27

	Off-Road	158	76	\$5,395,487.44	52	\$3,920,353.88	57	\$3,451,465.19
	On-Road TVP	24	26	\$797,094.67	26	\$797,094.67	79	\$2,308,288.68
	School Bus Replacement	0	1	\$91,000.06	0	\$0.00	1	\$91,335.23
	School Bus Retrofit	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	56	\$1,047,215.06
	School Bus Tank Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$18,528.34
Lawn Garden	Lawn Mower Replacement	34	35	\$7,981.24	35	\$7,981.24	26	\$6,020.04
Public Benefit	Alt-Fuel	1	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	4	\$79,041.01
Remove II	Car Crushing	111	104	\$758,026.92	104	\$758,026.92	217	\$921,025.78
	Charge Up	4	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$10,000.00
	VVIP - Commuter Subsidy	43	520	\$15,600.00	520	\$15,600.00	793	\$23,790.00
	Public Transit - Commuter Subsidy	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$7,320.00
	Drive Clean - Light and Medium Duty	136	158	\$399,765.79	158	\$399,765.79	179	\$460,977.60
Technology Advancement	Tech. Advance Program	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$30,000.00
	Totals	730	1136	\$7,902,527.12	1109	\$6,357,322.50	1,719	\$8,999,936.66

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
482	148	55	685

Smoking Vehicles	9
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Operations Overview

- Completed 2,307 inspections in March, and 207 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 222.
- Received 268 permit applications in March, and 341 permits were issued.
- Received 9 smoking vehicle reports in March.
- Received 242 environmental documents in March.

Upcoming Meetings

Gov. Board Meeting*
May. 10, 2018

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10:00 a.m. Jun. 5, 2018

Enviro. Justice Adv. Grp.
5:30 p.m. Jun. 28, 2018

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

* Webcast