

Actions by the Governing Board – October 15, 2020

Update on the 2020 Wildfire Season and District Outreach Efforts

The Governing Board received an update on the 2020 wildfire season to date, including details on how wildfire emissions overwhelm all other air pollution emissions in the Valley, detailed information on wildfires that had affected the Valley's air quality through the summer, and information on the resulting elevated ozone and PM2.5 concentrations that occurred from wildfire impacts. The 2020 wildfire season set a new record for the largest fire in state history - the August Complex fire, which, along with other large fires such as the Creek Fire and the SQF Complex Fire, played a significant role in the poor air quality experienced in the Valley during the summer and fall seasons. During this past fire season, the District took action to notify the public of when air quality impacts were occurring through issuing health cautionary statements, Air Quality Alerts issued through the National Weather Service, the Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) available on-line and through the Valley Air mobile device app, our dedicated dynamic wildfire webpage, and through responding to numerous public calls and media requests.

District Governing Board Approved Temporary Economic Relief in the Form of a Fee Waiver from Required Asbestos Removal Fees as a Result of Declared Wildfire Emergencies in 2020

The Valley Air District Governing Board authorized the Executive Director/APCO to provide economic relief in the form of a fee waiver from required asbestos removal fees as a result of declared wildfire emergencies in 2020. Multiple large wildfires have impacted California over the past few years, with the state and Valley experiencing an unprecedented wildfire season in 2020. Several of these fires, including the Creek Fire (Madera and Fresno Counties) and SQF Fire (Tulare County) have impacted businesses and residents in the Valley. The wildfire Impacts in 2020 to the valley have been declared as emergencies by numerous California counties, the state of California and the federal administration. The District has implemented streamlining measures to aid residence and business in their cleanup effort of hazardous waste. These measures include reducing the 10-day asbestos notification to 24 hours, inspections on an as needed basis, and a temporary asbestos removal fee waiver upon request. These recommendations are in support of continued District participation in local, county and state wildfire recovery efforts.

District Governing Board Authorizes APCO to Enter into Agreements for Truck Rerouting Study in AB 617 South Central Fresno Community

The Governing Board authorized the Executive Director/APCO to enter into funding agreements not to exceed \$500,000 with the City of Fresno to support their truck rerouting study in South Central Fresno. The community of South Central Fresno was prioritized by the District and subsequently selected by CARB as one of two first-year communities in the San Joaquin Valley to receive clean air resources available under AB 617, the Community Air Protection Program. The Community Emission Reduction Program (CERP) developed for the South Central Fresno AB 617 community included a wide variety of measures designed to reduce emissions and exposure to air pollution in the community, including a measure to study whether heavy-duty trucks travelling within the community can be rerouted to reduce exposure of South Central Fresno community residents to harmful emissions. This item provided authority to the APCO to enter into necessary funding agreements with the City of Fresno to support their implementation of the truck rerouting study within the South Central Fresno community.

District Extends Compliance Period for Rule 4905 (Natural Gas-Fired, Fan-type Central Furnaces) due to COVID-19.

District Rule 4905 is a point of sale rule that limits NOx emissions from natural gas-fired, fan-type central furnaces. Through the implementation of this rule, and due to the manufacturing supply chain interruptions and delays from COVID-19, in October 2020 the Governing Board amended Rule 4905 to extend the compliance period for weatherized units to meet the applicable low-NOx limit of 14 nanograms/Joule. The compliance period was extended by an additional year, until September 30, 2021, to allow manufacturers additional time to develop a large enough supply of compliant weatherized units to make them widely and commercially available in the Valley.

September District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- In September, the District provided resident guidance during record-breaking wildfire season by promoting resources and educating the public on how to protect public health during this unprecedented wildfire season. The District issued five News Releases and provided step by step instructions on how to build their own DIY home air filter. To see some of the information shared please visit [Valley Air News](#).
- District staff introduced the draft Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP) Strategies to Stockton’s AB 617 Community Steering Committee. The CERP is initiatives and measures to help reduce air pollution exposure in the Southwest Stockton Community.
- In September, District staff responded to 35 media calls, 117 public calls, and 52 emails, and attended three event/presentations.

Grants and Incentive Programs

- In September, the District received 1358 incentive program applications. 299 were for the Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 459 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In September, \$19,801,503.46 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and \$12,218,688.93 in claims was paid.
- In September, \$1,854,203.85 was paid out in Light Duty and REMOVE II program claims.
- In September, \$347,265.00 was paid out in Burn Cleaner program claims.

	September 2020	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	Sum of Grant Funding
Burn Cleaner	Burn Cleaner – Wood Stove Change Out	299	270	\$655,500.00	270	\$655,500.00	\$347,265.00
Heavy Duty	Ag Burn Alternative Voucher	74	13	\$278,760.00	13	\$278,760.00	\$134,580.00
	Ag Engine Diesel to Diesel	0	1	\$14,500.00	1	\$14,500.00	\$20,250.00
	Ag Engine Diesel to Electric	0	3	\$64,500.00	1	\$42,000.00	\$0.00
	Ag-UTV Vehicle Replacement	158	228	\$3,078,000.00	228	\$3,078,000.00	\$59,060.09
	Infrastructure Alternative Fuel	0	0	\$0.00	3	\$1,602,729.50	\$0.00
	Off-Road Ag Vehicle Replacement	194	194	\$10,848,139.48	173	\$12,021,221.51	\$7,827,262.06

	Off-Road Ag Vehicle Replacement 2 for 1	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$228,661.81	\$0.00
	Off-Road Engine Repower	0	2	\$632,235.42	2	\$632,235.42	\$0.00
	Off-Road Tractor Trade-Up	2	10	\$697,136.82	12	\$532,494.92	\$0.00
	On-Road Ag Truck Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	4	\$566,774.00	\$2,850,696.92
	On-Road New Purchase	0	20	\$400,000.00	25	\$500,000.00	\$40,000.00
	On-Road New Vehicle	0	8	\$80,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	On-Road Trade-Up	11	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	On-Road Truck Replacement	20	19	\$1,288,233.80	6	\$539,872.37	\$802,960.48
	On-Road Prop 1B Locomotive Replacement	0	1	\$1,620,000.00	1	\$1,620,000.00	\$0.00
	On-Road TVP Vehicle Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$98,000.00
	School Bus Vehicle Replacement	0	2	\$799,997.94	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Yard Truck Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$385,879.38
Lawn & Garden	Commercial Replacement	29	17	\$32,987.31	17	\$32,987.31	\$22,487.35
	Residential New Purchase	50	42	\$1,997.49	42	\$1,997.49	\$2,269.47
	Residential Replacement	100	87	\$19,985.05	87	\$19,985.05	\$24,700.00
Light Duty	Charge Up - Private	1	1	\$12,000.00	1	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
	Charge Up - Public	4	1	\$25,000.00	1	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
	Drive Clean - EV Vehicle Rebate	209	81	\$226,000.00	81	\$226,000.00	\$237,000.00
	EFMP Replacement	29	173	\$1,579,000.00	173	\$1,579,000.00	\$531,490.54
	TITU Admin/Events	5	13	\$108,365.21	14	\$108,365.21	\$73,606.50
	TITU Payroll	11	23	\$302,383.42	23	\$302,383.42	\$241,856.96
	TITU Repairs	130	105	\$515,446.01	105	\$515,446.01	\$769,709.85
	Van Pool Agency CFP	7	7	\$15,240.00	7	\$15,240.00	\$540.00
Public Benefit	Alternative Fuel New Vehicle	21	42	\$712,546.71	48	\$823,059.98	\$461,050.87
Remove II	Alternate Fuel Training	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
VW NOx Mitigation	Replacement School Bus	0	2	\$779,998.78	9	\$3,600,000.00	\$0.00
	Replacement Shuttle Bus	1	1	\$160,000.00	1	\$160,000.00	\$0.00
	Replacement Transit Bus	3	0	\$0.00	4	\$720,000.00	\$0.00
	Totals	1358	1366	\$24,947,953.44	1354	\$30,469,214.00	\$14,930,665.47

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)

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NOx	PM	ROG	Total
1,490	221	259	1,970

Smoking Vehicles

Operations Overview

- Completed 2,997 inspections in September and 169 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 104.
- Received 144 permit applications in September, and 146 permits were issued.
- Received 175 environmental documents in September.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*

9:00 AM, Nov. 19

Citizens Advisory Committee*

10:00 AM, Dec. 1

Environmental Justice Advisory Group

5:30 PM, Jan. 28

Meetings are held in the Fresno office Governing Board Room, Modesto VTC room and Bakersfield VTC room.

Details: www.valleyair.org

**Webcast*