

## Actions by the Governing Board – May 18, 2023

### Accept and Appropriate \$18 Million in Additional Revenue from the US Environmental Protection Agency to Fund Replacement of Low-Dust Nut Harvesters and Wood Burning Devices

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted and appropriated \$18,590,223 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for two projects under EPA's highly competitive national Targeted Air Shed Grant Program. In December 2022, the District submitted three proposals to the Targeted Air Shed Grant Program, including replacing nut-harvesting equipment with low-dust equipment, replacing open-hearth fireplaces and old wood or pellet burning devices with new, cleaner-emitting burning devices and Trucks-as-a-service; a concept that facilitates the rapid deployment of heavy-duty battery electric vehicles in the District. On April 5, 2023, EPA informed the District that two of the three proposals were selected for funding. The District's low-dust nut harvesting equipment replacement proposal was selected for \$10,000,000 in funding, and our wood burning device change-out program proposal was selected for \$8,590,223 in funding. The \$10,000,000 for nut harvesters will help fund the replacement of approximately 120, pieces of nut-harvesting equipment with new, low-dust harvesting pieces of equipment. The total project is expected to result in the reduction of approximately 910 tons of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The \$8,590,223 for wood burning devices will help fund the replacement of approximately 2,089 wood burning devices in the San Joaquin Valley. This funding is expected to result in the reduction of approximately 723 tons of PM.

### Adopt Proposed PM<sub>2.5</sub> Contingency Measure State Implementation Plan Revision and Amendments to Rule 4901 (Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters)

The Valley Air District's Governing Board adopted the *PM<sub>2.5</sub> Contingency State Implementation Plan Revision* and amendments to District Rule 4901 (Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters). The strategy, which follows EPA's recently published draft guidance on contingency, includes an analysis of potential contingency measures, a quantification of expected emission reductions, and the District's contingency measure commitment for the 1997, 2006, and 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), including amendments to District Rule 4901 to include a contingency provision which would establish progressively more stringent curtailment level(s) within the rule if triggered pursuant to Clean Air Act contingency requirements. Additionally, the District committed to evaluate potential amendments to District Rule 8051 (Open Areas) to address contingency requirements, as necessary to ensure EPA approvability of the District's contingency submission. The District will continue to work with CARB and EPA as this strategy is evaluated and implemented over the coming years.

## April District Activities

### Outreach and Communications

- In April, the Valley Air District celebrated Air Quality Awareness Week and encouraged people to learn more about the Valley's air quality and ways to incorporate air quality knowledge and tools into their daily living. We asked residents to follow the District on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and asked residents to share the ways they are "working together for clean air".
- April is Earth Day month, the District was busy attending multiple different events up and down the Valley discussing the importance of environmental protection and talking about ongoing changes residents can make to help protect our Valley's air.
- In April, District staff responded to 4 media calls, 16 public calls, 31 emails, and participated in 27 events/presentation.

## Grants and Incentive Programs

	April 2023	Grants Offered		Amount Paid
Key	Program	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
<b>Burn Cleaner</b>	Wood Stove Change Out	145	\$556,150.00	\$1,440,988.69
<b>CAP &amp; Trade</b>	Demonstration	0	\$0.00	\$124,833.98
<b>Heavy Duty</b>	Ag Burn Alternative	75	\$3,443,700.00	\$3,108,080.72
	Ag Engine	16	\$648,402.43	\$0.00
	Ag-UTV	77	\$1,039,500.00	\$257,410.85
	Infrastructure	2	\$2,890,000.00	\$0.00
	Off-Road	109	\$11,619,887.93	\$8,410,895.03
	On-Road	3	\$273,837.96	\$0.00
<b>Lawn &amp; Garden</b>	Commercial	0	\$0.00	\$11,762.06
	Residential	73	\$11,490.69	\$10,990.69
<b>Light Duty</b>	Charge Up	4	\$87,000.00	\$39,265.00
	Drive Clean	793	\$2,348,000.00	\$2,207,000.00
	EFMP	213	\$1,926,500.00	\$702,500.00
	TITU	157	\$986,867.34	\$914,908.55
<b>Public Benefit</b>	Alternative Fuel	17	\$310,675.04	\$1,499,686.73
	Clean Air Centers	23	\$86,032.47	\$0.00
<b>Remove II</b>	Alternate Fuel Training	1	\$2,860.00	0
<b>VW Nox Mitigation</b>	Replacement	24	\$4,320,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>1,732</b>	<b>\$30,550,903.86</b>	<b>\$18,728,322.30</b>

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
769	452	406	1,628

## Upcoming Meetings

**Governing Board\***

*9:00 AM, Jun. 15*

**Citizens Advisory Committee\***

*10:00 AM, Aug. 1*

**Environmental Justice Advisory Group**

*5:30 PM, Jun. 22*

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

*Details: [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org)*

*\*Webcast*