

News Release

For immediate release

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San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



For: local news, business, ag and assignment editors

Central District Media Contact - Fresno

Janelle Schneider (559) 230-5853

Northern District Media Contact – Modesto

Anthony Presto (209) 557-6472

Southern District Media Contact –

Bakersfield

Brenda Turner (661) 392-5581

Spanish-language Media Contact

Claudia Encinas (559) 230-5849

New grant program replaces ag tractors

Applications now being taken

A new Air District incentive program targets off-road agricultural tractors for replacement.

The Agricultural Off-road Tractor Replacement program application period runs through Dec. 31, 2010. Funding for this program comes from a combination of local, state and federal sources.

“This new program addresses a critical component of the Valley’s economy,” said Samir Sheikh, director of the District’s Strategies and Incentives department, which is administering the program. “Agriculture deservedly needs all the financial help available, especially in these challenging times.”

Eligibility criteria include;

- Equipment must be self-propelled, off-road agricultural tractors.
- They must have uncontrolled (Tier 0) engines.
- Tractors must operate at least 75 percent of the time in California and 50 percent of the time in the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.
- To be eligible for District funding, projects cannot be eligible for Natural Resources Conservation Service EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) funding.

Projects are funded on a per-dollar horsepower basis and contracts must be established before purchases are made. Funds will be disbursed during spring to early summer 2011.

For more information, contact the Strategies and Incentives program at 559-230-5800.

For more information about the Valley Air District, call a regional office: in Fresno, 559-230-6000; in Bakersfield, 661-392-5500; and in Modesto, 209-557-6400.