

Highlights

District Activities for December 2005



December 15, 2005 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Governing Board elected Bakersfield Councilmember Mike Maggard as 2006 Board Chair and Tulare Supervisor J. Steven Worthley as Vice Chair.
- The Governing Board unanimously adopted new **Rule 9510 (Indirect Source Review)**. This landmark rule – the first of its kind in the nation – requires developers of larger residential, commercial and industrial projects to reduce smog-forming and particulate emissions from their projects' baselines.

Rule 9510 takes effect March 1, 2006 and will reduce nitrogen oxides and particulates throughout the Valley by 10.5 tons per day by 2010. Under the rule, developers are required to reduce nitrogen oxides by 33 percent and particulates by 50 percent of a project's baseline. Developers are encouraged to reduce emissions through on-site mitigation, such as: increasing street connectivity within the development; incorporating bicycle- and walker-friendly designs; constructing energy-efficient buildings; integrating mass transit; offering telecommuting and video-conferencing; and other measures.

Rule 3180, which establishes a fee schedule to recover the District's cost of administering Rule 9510, was also adopted. Additionally, the Board adopted a budget resolution increasing the 2005-06 District budget by \$2.3 million to implement the ISR program.

- The Governing Board adopted new **Rule 4694 (Wine Fermentation and Storage Tanks)**. The purpose of this innovative rule is to reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the fermentation and bulk storage of wine or achieve equivalent reductions through the control of alternative emission sources. The rule requires a 35 percent reduction in total fermentation emissions, which equates to 224 to 262 tons of VOCs per year. The rule is the first in the nation to address emissions from wine production.
- The Governing Board adopted amendments to **Rule 2201 (New and Modified Stationary Source Review Rule)**. Rule 2201's primary purpose is to provide a regulatory mechanism for allowing continued economic growth while minimizing emission increases due to this growth. Amendments to the rule incorporate federal New Source Review reforms for new and modified major stationary sources while assuring that none of the rule's current state requirements are relaxed, as required by state law.
- The Governing Board adopted new **Rule 4307 (Boilers, Steam Generators, Process Heaters - 2.0 MMBtu/hr to 5.0 MMBtu/hr)**. This rule sets emission standards for new and existing equipment used in the Valley. When fully implemented, Rule 4307 will reduce as much as 4.9 tons per day of nitrogen oxides, a pollutant that forms ozone in the summer months and particulate matter in the winter months.
- The Governing Board adopted new **Rule 4309 (Dryers, Dehydrators and Ovens)**, which sets emission standards for new and existing equipment used in the Valley rated over 5.0 MMBtu/hr. When fully implemented, Rule 4309 is designed to reduce over 1.9 tons per day of nitrogen oxides.

Public Relations, Legislative, Outreach and Education

During November, the Public Information Department issued five news releases (three regarding the Residential Wood-Burning program, one outlining the need for Hazard Reduction Burning permits and one announcing Dave Crow's retirement). The department responded to 96 media calls on these and other District topics and recorded 173 public calls. Staff participated in six outreach events around the Valley to raise air-quality awareness.

This time of the year, the District receives scores of public calls related to the **Residential Wood-Burning Program (Rule 4901)**. Unlike the 2004-05 wood-burning season, when only three mandatory curtailment days were called in the District, 2005-06 is setting records. A District-wide prohibition was called Dec. 13 for the first time in the three-year program. Mandatory curtailments were declared in Stanislaus and Merced counties for the first time Dec. 9. Stagnant dispersion levels have kept the entire District under continuous mandatory or voluntary curtailments since Dec. 9 and conditions are expected to remain poor for some time. Contact Public Information for a current list of curtailments by county.

The colorful and educational **2006 Clean Air Kids calendar** is being distributed throughout the District. A total of 25,000 calendars are given away to a broad range of residents as part of the District's outreach efforts. In addition, 8,000 2006 calendars specifically designed for Hmong language speakers are distributed free of charge through regional offices.

Grants and Incentive Program Activities

- The District received 20 Ag Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) applications in November for a total of 434 engines to date.
- \$83,600 in REMOVE II grant funds was placed under contract in November for qualifying projects.
- \$549,880 was paid out in claims in November.

Operation Overview

- 748 inspections were conducted by **Compliance** in November. 84 Notices of Violation were issued and 233 mutually settled cases were recorded.
- 318 **Permit** applications were received and 1,916 permits were issued in November.
- **Planning** held eight rule and plan workshops, received 195 environmental documents and provided 291 educational activities last month. 64 smoking vehicles were reported.

Upcoming Meetings

2006 CAC Schedule -- Meetings begin at 10 a.m.

January 3, 2006	NO JULY 2006 MEETING
February 7, 2006	August 1, 2006
March 7, 2006	September 5, 2006
April 4, 2006	October 3, 2006
May 2, 2006	NO NOVEMBER 2006 MEETING
June 6, 2006	December 5, 2006

2006 Governing Board Schedule – Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

January 19, 2006	NO JULY 2006 MEETING
February 16, 2006	August 17, 2006
March 16, 2006	September 21, 2006
April 20, 2006	October 19, 2006
May 18, 2006	NO NOVEMBER 2006 MEETING
June 15, 2006	December 21, 2006