

Highlights

District Activities for June 2005



June 16, 2005 Actions by the Governing Board

- Board approved the **2005-06 Recommended Budget**.
- Board recognized the **City of Fresno** for receiving the Clean Cities Coalition National Partner Award for its efforts to improve air quality by investing in a clean-air fleet.
- Board adopted major amendments to **Rule 4702 (Internal Combustion Engines, Phase 2)** that set strict new emission limits for more than 4,500 existing diesel engines and 900 natural gas-fired engines. These engines, primarily used to power agricultural irrigation water pumps, were exempt until 2004, when new state laws took effect. When fully implemented, the new limits are estimated to remove emissions of 24.3 tons of nitrogen oxides per day. This is one of the most significant rules the Air District as adopted in the past few years. The number of sources affected, the costs involved and the emissions reduced are substantial. District grant programs, such as the Heavy Duty Incentive Program, will be used to mitigate the cost of this rule. The board reiterated its commitment to provide financial assistance for stakeholders to comply with rules such as these.
- Board adopted **SB 656 Particulate Matter Control Measure Implementation Schedule** to comply with SB 656, which required air districts to select measures for implementation in their air basins from a statewide list of 103 PM control measures. Of the 103 possible control measures, 37 were cited as existing Air District rules, 39 were similar to measures already adopted by the District, 13 are planned for adoption in the next two years, and 13 represent sources not found in the District. Controls could not be substantially similar to existing rules or to measures planned for adoption within two years of the July 31, 2005, submission deadline. Due to the strong history of leadership in the control of PM, the District's schedule contains one measure, District Rule 4621 (Gasoline Transfer into Stationary Storage Containers, Delivery Vessels, and Bulk Plants). The previous District's plan to adopt this rule fell just beyond the submission deadline and therefore has been moved up.
- The District was recognized for receiving an "**Air Monitoring Award of Excellence**" from the ARB. The award covers work from 2001 to 2003 and recognizes that the District has achieved high ratings for precision, accuracy and data completeness for all three years. The District has 16 air-monitoring sites in eight counties and is constructing a new monitoring station in Tracy, which will begin operating later this summer. These sites monitor ozone, PM and other pollutants, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

May Public Relations, Legislative, Outreach and Education

- Three **Clean Green Yard Machine (CGYM)** events were held in Modesto, Fresno and Bakersfield during the past five weeks. A total of 595 gas-powered lawn mowers were exchanged for a discount coupon on the purchase of an electric lawnmower. Resulted in great community feedback and media coverage.

- Prelude to the **2005 Spare the Air season** began with a community “Spare The Air” Night at Fresno’s Grizzlies Stadium. Spare the Air materials were distributed and two electric lawnmowers were given away. The Spare the Air outreach campaign has begun with a tri-lingual advertising campaign. Spare the Air season runs June 7 - Sept. 30, 2005.
- **Air Quality Flag Program for schools** was completed for pilot year: 48 District schools received flags keyed to the air quality index, collateral and education. Funding for the program, a partnership between the District and the Central California Lung Assn., is expected to double next year.
- In May, the District responded to 54 media inquires and 169 public calls. Three press releases were written (CGYM, DPAG and Clean Air Kids Calendar contest) and 35 outreach activities were conducted.
- District is monitoring legislative activity on **SB 999** (Governing Board make-up) and **SB 109** (Changes in Prosecution of Minor Violation).

Grants and Incentive Program Activities

- Based on the recommendations of the Management Audit, the Emissions Reduction Incentive Program (ERIP) became its own department.
- The District entered into a contract for five more “Green Goats” (clean-powered, hybrid rail switching cars) at a cost of just under \$4 million. These cars will be located in Stockton, Fresno and Bakersfield.
- \$701,896 was placed under contract in the month of May.
- \$1.5 million was paid out in Claims for Payment in May.

Upcoming Meetings

2005 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

Meetings begin at 10 a.m.

No July 2005 Meeting	October 4, 2005
August 2, 2005	No November 2005 Meeting
September 6, 2005	December 6, 2005

2005 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

No July 2005 Meeting	October 20, 2005
August 18, 2005	November 17, 2005
September 15, 2005	December 15, 2005