

# Highlights

## District Activities for November & December 2008

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### December 18 Actions by the Governing Board

- San Joaquin County Supervisor **Leroy Ornellas**, the outgoing Governing Board Chair, presented an end-of-the-year report to the Board. Sup. Ornellas said that during his tenure, “important programs that are bringing cleaner air to the Valley were implemented.” He praised the Board and District staff as leaders in excellent customer service and outlined some successes of the past year including the *2008 PM2.5 Plan*, launching the Healthy Air Living outreach campaign and \$100 million in Prop. 1B incentive funds.” We can’t get cleaner air by regulations alone so these incentives are essential,” he said.
- The Board recognized outgoing member **Henry Perea**, a Fresno City Councilmember, for service to his community and to the Air District over the past two years.
- Elections for 2009 were held in accordance with the adopted rotation schedule. Northern Region Small City Representative **Chris Vierra**, a councilmember from Ceres and the 2008 Vice Chair, will serve as Chair. Kings County Supervisor **Tony Barba** was named Vice Chair.
- The Governing Board adopted amendments to Rule 2201 (New and Modified Stationary Source Review Rule) and Rule 2530 (Federally Enforceable Potential to Emit). The rule amendments, which will become effective upon EPA approval, incorporate required changes resulting from the reclassification of the San Joaquin Valley's federal eight-hour ozone attainment status to extreme nonattainment. The changes affect the definitions of “major source” and “federal major modification” by lowering their respective applicability thresholds, and increase the amount of mitigation required by major projects.
- The Governing Board adopted amendments to **Rule 4607** (Graphic Arts), which controls emissions from the graphic arts printing and coating operations. The rule amendments would reduce allowable Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) limits in inks and coating used in commercial printing. It also incorporates federal material and control standards for larger printing operations. When fully implemented, VOC emissions would be reduced by 18 tons per year.
- The Board adopted amendments to the **2007 Ozone Plan**. These amendments will extend the rule development schedule for **Rule 4566** (Organic Waste Management). The extension is required to allow field studies to determine the impact of various Best Management Practices (BMP). The studies will be conducted in 2009 and will show the effectiveness of BMP in reducing VOC as well as Greenhouse Gases (GHG). The data will allow the rule makers to target the most effective BMP, maximizing reductions while avoiding unnecessary costs to the operators. Even with the extended schedule, the District is still on track to meet its requirements for rate of progress towards attainment under the plan.
- The Board adopted the **2009 Legislative Platform** which outlines the District's five priorities for legislative action in the coming year. These include: addressing climate change issues, alternatives to agricultural burning, incentive funding, the designation of an air quality Enterprise/Empowerment Zone and re-authorization of the federal transportation bill.

- District staff reported to the Governing Board on issues raised during the October 2008 approval of amended Rule 4901, Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters. District staff will continue to evaluate Rule 4901 and report back to the Governing Board at the end of the current wood burning season. The Governing Board directed District staff develop forecasting tools for the Frazier Park area as soon as possible.
- The Board approved staff's recommendation for enhancing the District's existing **Heavy-Duty Engine Emission Reduction Incentive Program** and established a new, voluntary program called the Fleet Accelerated Surplus Turnover (FAST) program for off-road equipment. The new program will serve as an alternative to opting into the State Surplus Off-Road Opt-in for NOx (SOON) program. In addition to the existing repower and retrofit components, FAST will add a new equipment replacement component. Oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and particulate matter (PM) emission reductions through the new program will be ensured to be surplus, beyond those required by the statewide In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicles Regulation.

The District expects to achieve cost-effective emission reductions from the FAST program that will meet or exceed those anticipated for the SOON program. The new program will ensure limited funds are maximized for emissions reduced in the San Joaquin Valley. Since it is voluntary, FAST also will better address the concerns of affected fleet owners by allowing them some flexibility to make financial decisions to participate based on the unique circumstances of their respective companies.

- The Governing Board received and filed proposed amendments to **Rule 1020** (Definitions) and set Jan. 15 for public hearings to consider adoption. Additionally, the Board also received and filed the annual **Offset Equivalency Report** to the EPA for the period of August, 2007 to August 2008.
- The Board heard details about the District's multi-media **winter 2008-09 Healthy Air Living** outreach. A multi-lingual advertising campaign is focusing on the Check Before You Burn program in ads on TV and radio and in billboards, in interviews with Valley media and on the web. A highlight of the public education efforts include a contest for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders called "Kid's for Clean Air" that features a kit with Healthy Air Living pledge cards for parents, teachers and students and a chance to win prizes.

## Public Information, Outreach and Education

- **2009 Healthy Air Living calendars are available.** Fourteen student artists, including at least one student from each District county, are featured in the 2009 bilingual wall calendar. This year 20,000 copies will be distributed free to residents, schools, businesses and health care facilities. Calendar orders can be placed by calling (229) 230-6000 or at [public.education@valleyair.org](mailto:public.education@valleyair.org).
- **Outreach and Communications** responded to 46 media calls and 115 public calls in October and 27 media and 241 public calls in November. Three news releases in October and four in November were distributed to Valley media. Topics ranged from the Healthy Air Living Bike to Work days held in each region to the wood-burning program. Staff participated in nine outreach events in October and five in November.

## Grant and Incentive Program Activities for October & November

- The District received a total of 63 incentive program applications in October and 31 in November.
- \$4,919,576 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract in October and \$7,339,937.68 were placed under contract in November.
- \$1,877,510 was paid out in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims in October.
  - Ag Engines – 20                      \$ 204,115
  - On-Road – 3                              \$1,673,395
 Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)
  - NOx 529

- PM 13
- ROG 89

Total: 631

- \$4,002,144.86 was paid out in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims in November.
  - Ag Engines – 38 \$1,103,547.34
  - Off Road – 1 \$ 514,745.74
  - On Road – 4 \$2,378,851.78
  - On-Road 1B – 1 \$ 5,000.00

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

- NOx 865
- PM 20
- ROG 129

Total: 1,013

- In the REMOVE II Program, October claims totaled \$9,300 and \$29,520 in claims were paid in November.

## October - November Operations Overview

- **The District** received 169 environmental documents for review in October and 135 in November.
- **Planning** held 4 rule and plan workshops in October and 3 in November. 7 rules were adopted or amended in October.
- **Compliance** conducted 2,098 inspections in October. 258 NOVs were issued and 233 cases were settled. In November, 1,091 inspections were conducted, 198 NOVs were issued and 170 cases were settled.
- **Permits** received 257 applications in October and 214 in November. 623 permits were issued in October and 306 were issued the following month.
- **ERIP** received 20 smoking vehicle reports in October and 28 in November.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Governing Board

9 a.m. Thurs., Jan. 15, 2009

### Citizens' Advisory Committee

10 a.m. Tues., Jan. 6, 2009

Please see [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) for meeting agendas and other details.