

District Highlights

November 5, 2009 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Governing Board heard a summary of the District's innovative summer **Healthy Air Living outreach efforts**. Prizes were awarded to the winners of several contests sponsored as part of the District's efforts to involve all ages throughout the Valley's eight counties in cleaning up the air.
 - **Win a Chevy Malibu Hybrid contest**. The name of the lucky winner of the summer's grand prize, a white 2009 \$25,000 high fuel-mileage vehicle, was drawn at the meeting and will be announced once his or her eligibility is verified. The District is grateful for the generosity the Central Valley Chevy Dealers Assn. for the donation of the car.
 - **Commute Green in the San Joaquin Corporate Challenge** was aimed at encouraging businesses and organizations to increase alternative commuting. Winners were: Small Category, City of Visalia Admin Office; Medium Category, Piccadilly Inn University, Fresno; and Large Category, Fresno County.
 - **Commute Green in the San Joaquin Kids' Edition** gave K-6 schools a chance to motivate students to opportunity to put their best feet forward – literally! – and for a week, find alternate safe commutes to school. Winners were: Sequoia Elementary, Manteca; Malloch Elementary, Fresno and Tamarack Elementary, Avenal.
 - **Healthy Air Living "For Reel" Video Contest** was won by Brandon Bush, Modesto. Second place went to Drew Monson, Modesto, and Ms. Scholl's class at McParland Elementary in Manteca was the third place winner.
- The California Air Resources Board requested the District's assistance in implementing the **State Lower Emission School Bus Program** on behalf of several small or rural air districts. The Board authorized the District to provide this service. The District will be entitled to the remainder of an ARB grant as well as administrative fees to recover costs associated with these efforts.
- Additionally, the Board approved the transfer of unused DERA administration funds to project funds. The District received \$205,000 in DERA **Lower Emission School Bus funding** from the state. Of these, \$14,350 was allocated to administer the grant. Because of streamlining measures implemented in the grant programs, the District only used about \$5,800 of these funds. The remaining money was reallocated to help further reduce bus emissions.
- The Governing Board approved modifications to the "**Burn Cleaner**" Wood-Burning Device incentive program. Changes for 2009-2010 include establishing incentive levels ranging from \$100 to \$500 based upon the type of device purchased. In addition, the program will offer low income residents \$1,500 for the purchase of any eligible device. The Burn Cleaner incentive program has been a key component of the District's strategy to reduce the significant particulate matter emissions and resulting health impacts from residential wood-burning during the winter season. To date, the program has resulted in the replacement of 671 wood burning devices. The Board directed that the program and associated advertising begin on January 15, 2010.
- The Board approved interim **Voluntary Air Quality Advisory Guidelines** which were developed in response to requests from Valley schools. These new guidelines, and a corresponding communication network, are intended to better protect student health.
- The Board received and filed proposed new **Rule 9410 (Employer Based Trip Reduction)**. This rule, which was a commitment in Federal attainment plans, is designed to reduce emissions associated with work commutes by reducing the use of Single-Occupancy Vehicles in the Valley. Under the proposed Rule, larger employers (those with 100 or more eligible employees) would use District-supplied tools and materials to establish employee trip reduction programs. The draft rule proposes a menu-based

approach and a phased-in compliance schedule. The Board set Dec. 17, 2009 for a public hearing to consider adoption.

- The Board received and filed proposed amendments to **Rule 4308 (Boilers, Process Heaters, Steam Generators, and Water Heaters - 0.075 MMBtu/hr to less than 2.0 MMBtu/hr)** and **Rule 4601 (Architectural Coatings)** and set Dec. 17, 2009 for a public hearing to consider adoption.
- The Board approved a contract with the San Francisco market research firm of Corey, Canapary and Galanis for a **public opinion survey and market research project**. The survey will take place during the 2009-10 winter *Check Before You Burn* season and will assess residents' understanding of the Valley's air quality issues and their knowledge of Healthy Air Living. Results will be presented to the Board during the second quarter of 2010.
- The Governing Board tabled until December considering the Regional Policy on Addressing and Mitigating Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Impacts and the amendments to Rule 2301 in light of technical communications difficulties at the meeting. The postponement will ensure that we provide every opportunity for public input at the hearing. .

September District Activities

Outreach and Education

- All Valley businesses are invited to become a **Healthy Air Living Business Partner**. Applications are available at www.healthyairliving.com. Partners receive tips on reducing employee trips and improving energy efficiency as well as incentives for employees who join the clean-air effort.
- The District is the first in the state to develop a **Spanish-only website**. Aire Limpio Sana is the sister site to the District's Healthy Air Living website and offer clean air tips and health information. See: <http://www.airelimpiovidasana.com>
- District staff participated in 22 outreach events in September including several health fairs, speaking opportunities and as team members making presentations on Rule 9410 (Employee Based Trip Reduction) to municipalities and organizations. Staff responded to 15 media calls and 61 public calls and issued four news releases covering new Governing Board members, Commute Green in the San Joaquin Kids Edition and a health caution about blowing dust.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 57 incentive program applications in September.
- \$1,640,207.73 in Heavy-Duty Engine and REMOVE II Program grant funds were contracted.
- \$1,018,134.20 was paid in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims in September
 - Ag Engines – 24 \$ 778,136.68
 - On-Road 1B – 3 \$ 100,000.00
 - School Bus Retrofit – 1 \$ 139,997.52

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

• NOx	228
• PM	9
• ROG	<u>26</u>
Total:	263

- \$199,878.40 in REMOVE II Program claims were paid in September.

October Operations Overview

- **The District** received 119 environmental documents for review in September.
- **Planning** held 17 rule and plan workshops last month. 6 rules were adopted or amended.
- **Compliance** completed 2,401 inspections, issued 258 NOVS and settled 129 mutual settlement cases in September.
- **Permits** received 346 applications and issued 293 permits.
- **ERIP** received 39 smoking vehicle reports last month.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board

9 a.m. Thurs., Dec. 17

Citizens Advisory Committee

10 a.m. Tues., Dec. 1

Meetings are held in the Governing Board Room in the Fresno office and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Meetings are webcast. Details: www.valleyair.org