

District Highlights

December 16, 2010 Actions by the Governing Board

- 2010 Governing Board Chair, Kings County Supervisor Tony Barba, recognized the efforts of **outgoing Governing Board members** Mike Nelson, Merced County Supervisor, and Hanford Councilmember David Ayers. Supervisor Hub Walsh was introduced as the Board's new Merced County representative.
- In accordance with the adopted rotation schedule, Tulare County Supervisor Steve Worthley was elected **Board Chair for 2011** and Stockton Mayor Ann Johnston was selected as **Vice Chair**. They will take office in January.
- The Governing Board received a five-year evaluation of the **Indirect Source Review** program, and affirmed the ISR regulation without modifications. The pioneering ISR program resulted in land developers making numerous air-friendly changes in their practices and designs and approximately 6,700 tons of reductions in nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and PM₁₀ emissions. These reductions are the result of strategies such as locating residential developments near employers, retail and transit lines, designing neighborhoods for easy circulation and including bike paths and sidewalks. Developers have also provided about \$10 million that the District uses to fund pollution-control projects such as the replacement of old, high-emitting diesel engines.
- The Board approved the appropriation of \$2,913,123 in **revenue from the US Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA). The funds will be added to the District's grants and incentives budget to pay for the replacement of old, high-polluting diesel agricultural tractors with new, cleaner tractors. Lifetime emission reduction estimates are 192 tons of NO_x and 45 tons of PM 2.5. Given the large inventory and long life of agricultural equipment in the Valley, tractor replacement funding is very beneficial to air quality.
- The Board adopted a resolution in favor of the **California Clean Cars Campaign**, which encourages the state Air Resources Board to adopt the strong emissions standards for light-duty vehicles. Mobile sources – including light-duty vehicles – now represent approximately 81 percent of NO_x emissions in the air basin. NO_x is a criteria pollutant.
- The Board approved a budget resolution to reallocate \$163,357.59 in funds from the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act** for additional emission-reduction projects. The funds were originally designated for administrative costs which were deemed unnecessary due to the District's streamlined and efficient grant processing.
- The Governing Board approved the selection of six technology demonstration projects for funding. The projects were identified during the **Technology Advancement Program's** (TAP) first competitive request for proposals (RFP), authorized by the Board in March. Selected projects will reduce NO_x and PM emissions. They include waste-to-energy projects at a dairy and a landfill and a solar energy project at an agricultural site. Three heavy-duty vehicle projects will add innovative emission-control devices to tractors as well as convert refuse trucks and a wheel loader to advanced technology hybrids. The Board allocated \$1.4 million for the Technology Advancement Program's next competitive RFP in early 2011, including \$400,000 from the EPA.
- The Governing Board heard status updates for **Rule 4702** (Internal Combustion Engines - Phase 2) and **Rule 4566** (Composting and Related Operations) rule development projects. This past year, District has held several public workshops to present regulatory ideas for the rules and receive feedback. District staff will continue to work with all interested parties to address

outstanding issues and develop cost-effective rule provisions. The final rule will be presented for adoption in 2011.

- The Governing Board adopted a Negative Declaration for EPA Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) for **Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Manufacture of Pneumatic Rubber Tires**. The Board had two options to satisfy federal Clean Air Act requirements, either amend the existing rule to conform to the CTG, or declare that there are no sources in the Valley subject to the requirement through a formal Negative Declaration. Since there are no sources within the Valley subject to the requirements of this CTG, the Board adopted a Negative Declaration.
- The Board accepted up to \$100,000 from the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment to be used in Kern County for the District's Clean Green Yard Machine **lawnmower replacement program**. This supplemental funding has the potential to assist in the replacement of an additional 400 mowers. Since 2001, District funding has replaced thousands of old, high-polluting gas mowers with new cordless electric mowers.

October - November District Activities

Since no Governing Board meeting was held in November, two months of District activities are reviewed below.

Outreach and Communications

- **2011 Clean Air Kids' Calendars are available!** Stop by the District office nearest you or a call or email the District to obtain a 2011 full-color, bilingual calendar. The popular wall calendars feature drawings with a clean-air message by Valley schoolchildren. Organizations, non-profit groups, businesses, schools and individuals are welcome to order up to 50. Contact Brenda Turner: brenda.turner@valleyair.org.
- **Check air quality before you light a fire.** The District's Check Before You Burn wood-burning restriction program runs through February. The use of wood-burning fireplaces, wood stoves, outdoor fire pits and pellet stoves is prohibited when air quality is unhealthy. Gas fireplaces, propane heaters and homes with no natural gas service are exempt. To check the air quality in your county, call 1-800-SMOG-INFO (1-800-766-4463) or see www.valleyair.org.
- **Help us work toward cleaner air.** Become a Healthy Air Living Partner and make a difference in the health of all Valley residents. It's easy and free. Any Valley business, municipality, school, agency, organization or individual can participate. We'll provide you with tools and resources to guide your organization in making simple changes that will benefit our air quality. Visit www.healthyairliving.com and complete a Partner application packet or speak to someone in Outreach and Communications.
- Check Before You Burn got underway November 1 and resulted in many of the 52 media calls and 132 public calls received that month. Staff did six outreach events and issued three news releases. In October, staff responded to 130 public calls and 27 media calls and issued five news releases. Staff also gave 12 presentations and participated in 14 outreach events.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- **NOVEMBER:** 4,633 incentive program applications were received in November. 4,353 of those were for the Lawn and Garden Program and 196 were for the Woodstove Change-Out Program, which paid \$20,000 in claims that month.
- \$8,430,815.52 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract in November. \$1,903,116.65 in Heavy-Duty and \$64,784 in REMOVE II claims were paid.

Component	Number of Claims	Amount Paid
Ag Engine	26	\$453,294.63
Ag-UTV	7	\$18,104.00
Off-Road	6	\$270,306.93
On-Road	4	\$129,693.00
On-Road Prop 1B	14	\$635,000.00
On-Road VIP	3	\$115,000.00
School Bus Replacement	3	\$281,718.09

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

• NOx	984
• PM	33
• ROG	<u>7</u>
Total:	1024

- **OCTOBER:** 173 incentive program applications were received in October. 107 of those were for the Woodstove Change-Out Program, which paid \$35,200 in claims that month.
- \$7,722,528.52 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract in November. \$1,639,460.88 in Heavy-Duty and \$71,903 in REMOVE II claims were paid.

Component	Number of Claims	Amount Paid
Ag Engine	8	\$159,991.11
Off-Road	19	\$524,507.78
On-Road Prop 1B	17	\$757,000.00
On-Road VIP	2	\$80,000.00
School Bus Retrofit	15	\$117,961.99

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

• NOx	1070
• PM	47
• ROG	<u>12</u>
Total:	1128

October-November Operations Overview

- **The District** received 93 environmental documents for review in November and 62 in October.
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 22 smoking vehicle reports in November and 27 in October.
- **Compliance** completed 1,660 inspections, issued 184 NOVS and finalized 168 mutual settlement cases in November. In October, 2,940 inspections, 251 NOVs and 185 mutual settlement cases were recorded.
- **Permits** received 668 applications in November and issued 220 permits. In October, 113 applications were received and 272 permits were issued.

2011 Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*
9 am Jan. 20

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10 am Jan. 4

Environ. Justice Adv. Group
5:30 pm Jan. 25

Meetings take place in the Governing Board Room in the Fresno office and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Details: www.valleyair.org. * Webcast