

District Highlights

April 15, 2010 Actions by the Governing Board

- Governing Board Chair Tony Barba welcomed Visalia City Councilmember **Mike Lane** to a three-year term on the Governing Board. Councilmember Lane is a management analyst for Self-Help Enterprises, a Visalia-based nonprofit housing and community development organization. He was elected to the City Council in 2009 and was unanimously appointed to the District Board by the Special City Selection Committee on March 29, 2010.
- The Board adopted amendments to **Rule 4103 (Open Burning)**. The amendments incorporate the language of California Health & Safety Code Sections 41855.5 and 41855.6 regarding open burning of certain agricultural materials. Determinations required by the Health & Safety Code that could either result in changes to agricultural burning restrictions or further postpone restrictions that would otherwise be required under State law will be presented to the Board in May, based on a report that staff has presented for public review.
- The Board received a report re-evaluating the October 2008 amendments to **Rule 4354 (Glass Melting Furnaces)**. The Board also authorized the Air Pollution Control Officer to develop and propose amendments to the rule to incorporate short-term emission limits flexibility for flat glass manufacturing facilities committed to achieving more stringent long-term emission limits. The Board will consider the rule amendments after they have been presented to the public as part of the rule-making process.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency has awarded the Valley Air District \$1,796,474 in competitive grant funding to **replace heavy-duty trucks in the San Joaquin Valley**. The funds will be used to replace about 48 heavy-duty trucks and will achieve 829 tons of NOx and 15 tons of diesel particulate-matter emission reductions over the life of the project.
- The Board approved a resolution to accept and administer approximately \$4 million in **Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant** funding that the District expects to obtain from the California Energy Commission. This funding will allow local small jurisdictions to replace existing equipment with more energy-efficient technologies.
- District staff presented a comprehensive end-of-the-season report on the **2009-10 wood-burning season** detailing the following:
 1. Revised “Check Before You Burn” outreach messages as part of the Healthy Air Living Initiative and as part of a program promoting changes to District Rule 4901; air-quality and health impacts from wood burning, identification and promotion of cleaner wood-burning options such as the use of EPA-certified wood-burning devices, pellet stoves, processed logs and seasoned firewood, and results of incentive grants for Valley residents.
 2. Public health benefits from the efforts and program.
 3. Implementation activities including statistics and progress in compliance activities.

March District Activities

Outreach and Education

- **Bike to Work Events scheduled in May.** The Air District is partnering with cities around the Valley to support Bike to Work events in May. See this month’s *Valley Air News* for details on the many rides planned to promote commuter cycling.
- **Employee Trip Reduction Rule Outreach.** District staff is meeting with business-oriented organizations and larger companies to talk about Rule 9410, the Employer Trip Reduction Implementation Plan called eTRIP. **If your organization would like to learn about simple ways to reduce emissions** from employee vehicle trips, contact the District to schedule a presentation at public.education@valleyair.org

or through the online Speaker Request feature on the District's website (under Programs). For information on the eTRIP rule, see www.valleyair.org

- **2010 For Reel Video Contest.** Submit a 30-second video by May 28 that shows how you are Healthy Air Living for a chance to win prizes including iPod Shuffles and resource grants for teachers. See www.healthyairliving.com or "Valley Air District" on Facebook for details.
- **Trade up to a clean electric mower.** The District's popular Clean, Green Yard Machines lawn mower trade-in program offers a significant discount for Valley residents to purchase an electric mower when they trade in their gas model. Send your name and address to public.education@valleyair.org or request a voucher by calling any Valley Air District office: Modesto 209-557-6400, Fresno 559-230-6000 or Bakersfield 661-392-5500.
- **2011 Kids' Calendar drawings – a great end-of-the-year project.** Teachers, encourage your students to enter the 2011 Clean Air Kids Calendar contest by submitting their clean air drawings before the end of the school year. The calendar showcases the Valley's K-12 students' art and commitment to clean air and is seen in thousands of locations throughout the Valley. The deadline is Oct. 12. Details: www.healthyairliving.com.
- District staff answered 151 public calls in March and 21 media calls. Several of the media calls related to the end of wood-burning season. Staff gave 10 presentations and participated in five other outreach events last month.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 134 incentive program applications in March. Of those, 77 were for the Woodstove Change-out Program.
- \$6,817,266 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract in March.
- \$1,549,017.35 paid out in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims.

▪ Ag Engines – 49	\$ 896,668.49
▪ On-Road VIP – 5	\$ 165,000.00
▪ On-Road Prop 1B – 4	\$ 200,000.00
▪ On-Road - 5	\$ 50,055.00
▪ Off-Road – 5	\$ 217,605.36
▪ School Bus Retrofit – 4	\$ 19,688.50

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

- NOx 1,500
- PM 64
- ROG 52

Total: 1,616

- \$280,345.95 was paid in REMOVE II Program claims in March.
- \$97,050 in Woodstove Change-out Program claims were paid.

March Operations Overview

- **The District** received 143 environmental documents for review.
- **Compliance** completed 3,119 inspections, issued 231 NOVS and finalized 227 mutual settlement cases.
- **Permits** received 156 applications and issued 532 permits.
- **ERIP** received 30 smoking vehicle reports.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board
9 a.m. Thurs., May 20, 2010

Citizens Advisory Committee
10 a.m. Tues., May 4, 2010

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