

District Highlights

January 21, 2010 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Board approved the District's **Regional Energy Efficiency Strategy** (REES). The REES implements a District Fast-Track Strategy measure, Energy Conservation, and is a long-range strategy to encourage and offer incentives for energy efficiency and conservation in residential, commercial, municipal and industrial sectors throughout the Valley. Through education and outreach, program development and increased grant opportunities, the REES will help the Valley reduce emissions through reduced energy consumption. To date, the District has assisted Valley jurisdictions in applying for ARRA energy-efficiency grants to ensure that the Valley gets its fair share of these much-needed funds.
- The Board approved a \$252,824 **voluntary emission reduction agreement** (VERA) with Gill Ranch Storage, LLC, to mitigate the air-quality impacts of the proposed Gill Ranch Storage project in western Madera County. The 5,020-acre project will store up to 20 billion cubic feet of natural gas on site. To date, the District has entered into 11 VERAs and received \$5,590,845 in revenues. Projects funded through these agreements have achieved emission reductions of 125.42 tons of NOx.
- The Board approved seven priority areas in the **2010 Legislative Platform**:
 - Seek legislation to promote cost-effective alternatives to ag burning.
 - Support measures to provide reliable water supplies for the Valley.
 - Support policies and initiatives that encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy.
 - Pursue funding for incentives to expedite attainment of national air quality standards for particulate matter and ozone.
 - Seek the establishment of an air-quality empowerment zone at the state level.
 - Curbing wildfires and associated adverse health impacts.
 - Support re-authorization of the Federal Transportation Bill.

December District Activities

Outreach and Education

- Outreach and Communications staff finalized the annual Healthy Air Living Kids Calendar in December. Twenty-thousand copies were printed and distributed Valley-wide with the assistance of District staff.
- The District's *2009 Annual Report to the Community* was published.
- 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.
- Outreach and Communications conducted numerous media interviews (TV, radio and print) concerning Check Before You Burn in all three regions in both English and Spanish. The residential wood-burning curtailment program runs through the end of February.
- District staff conducted four presentations in December addressing Rule 4901. Staff responded to 14 media calls and 127 public calls, and issued a news release covering wood-burning prohibitions.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 54 incentive program applications in December.
 - \$4,444,268.89 in Heavy-Duty Engine and REMOVE II Program grant funds were contracted.
 - \$1,150,012.81 was paid in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims in December
 - Ag Engines – 39 \$ 768,920.81
 - On-Road VIP – 2 \$ 65,000.00
 - On-Road Prop 1B – 1 \$ 50,000.00
 - Off Road – 2 \$ 266,092.00
- Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)
- | | |
|--------|----------|
| ▪ NOx | 682 |
| ▪ PM | 15 |
| ▪ ROG | <u>5</u> |
| Total: | 702 |
- \$174,005 in REMOVE II Program claims were paid in December.

December Operations Overview

- **The District** received 140 environmental documents for review in December.
- **Planning** had 3 rules adopted at the December Board meeting.
- **Compliance** completed 1,758 inspections, issued 456 NOVS and settled 339 mutual settlement cases.
- **Permits** received 244 applications and issued 459 permits.
- **ERIP** received 25 smoking vehicle reports last month.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board
9 a.m. Thurs., Feb. 18

Citizens Advisory Committee
10 a.m. Tues., Feb. 2

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

2010 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The Board meets at 9 am the third Thursday of the month. The public is invited to attend. Public comment is invited on non-agenda items at the beginning of each meeting and on agenda items during that item's discussion.

March 18
April 15
May 20
June 17
No meeting in July

Aug. 19
Sept. 16
Oct. 21
November (TBD)
Dec. 16