


# District Highlights

## August 18, 2011 Actions by the Governing Board

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- The Governing Board held its first meeting using a **paperless agenda**. Each Board member has been issued an iPad linked to the District to use to review agenda materials. The new system will save the District about \$25,000 per year.
  - The Board heard a report on the new **Air Alert** notification system the District is launching to notify Valley residents when air quality is approaching the threshold of the federal 1-hour ozone (smog) standard. These alerts will promote voluntary actions by the public to reduce air pollution such as carpooling, avoiding drive-throughs, trip linking and using alternative transportation such as biking or walking. In addition to the serious health impacts of poor air quality, violations of the standard mean millions of dollars in additional fees for Valley drivers and businesses. Air Alerts may help the Valley reduce pollution and avoid future federal penalties. Air Alerts are most likely to occur during the hot summer months, especially August and September when students return to school and traffic increases. Due to the unique nature of ozone transport throughout the Valley, Air Alerts will be called on a Valley-wide basis. Residents will be notified through traditional media, web-based media, and social networking. To sign up to receive an Air Alert notification by email, visit [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org).
- AIR ALERT!** 
- The Board approved amendments to **Rule 2020 (Exemptions)**. The amendments clarify rule requirements by clearly identifying the specific exempted sources/equipment rather than citing the California Health and Safety Code. The amendments end the 18-month EPA sanction clock.
  - The Board adopted new **Rule 4566 (Organic Material Composting Operations)**, which implements a control measure in the District's *2007 Ozone Plan* and reduces VOC emissions from organic material composting operations. The rule consists of feasible, cost-effective measures to help achieve significant emissions reductions and satisfy, if not go beyond, Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) requirements for this source category.
  - The Board approved amendments to **Rule 4684 (Polyester Resin Operations)**, which add new specialty coating categories, reduce some VOC limits and raise control system effectiveness limits to match existing limits in other air districts. They also satisfy EPA's RACT requirements and end the Aug. 25, 2011 sanction deadline.
  - The Board approved amendments to **Rule 4702 (Internal Combustion Engines)**, which implement a control measure in both the District's *2007 Ozone Plan* and the *2008 PM2.5 Plan*. They also lower the current NOx limits, add SOx requirements, expand the rule to include a point of sale requirement for engines rated between 25 to 50 bhp, and provide the option to pay an annual fee to achieve equivalent NOx emission reductions through the District's grant program.
  - The Board approved the **State Implementation Plan (SIP) Submittal Amendment for Rule 4694 (Wine Fermentation and Storage Tanks)**, removing the wine fermentation provisions from EPA consideration and inclusion in the SIP. However, the full requirements of Rule 4694 remain in effect and are locally enforceable.
  - The Board approved funding for the following incentive grant projects:
    - \$750,000 to the **Port of Stockton** for a Short Sea Shipping project to replace existing truck transportation of goods between the Ports of Oakland and Stockton with container-on-barge service. Short sea shipping is an important strategy in the District's Fast Track to Air Quality Program.
    - A new incentive program to fund the purchase of **hybrid and zero-emission heavy duty fleet vehicles** operating in the Valley. Two million dollars from locally-generated DMV fees will fund this new

component of the District’s Heavy-Duty Engine Program. Vouchers ranging from \$15,000-\$30,000 will help offset the cost of the more expensive vehicles.

- \$250,000 from the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to implement the District’s new **Cordless Zero-Emission Commercial Lawn and Garden Equipment Advance Demonstration Project**. The two-year project will involve lawn care operators in hands-on research into the viability of new commercial lawn care equipment technologies with the potential for cost-effective emission reductions.
- \$1,546,000 from the ARB to fund a **statewide school bus retrofit program**. State regulations require school districts to retrofit their buses and while the ARB has given replacement and retrofit grants through its Lower Emission School Bus Program, once funds run out, about 3,400 buses will remain non-compliant. This program will provide additional funding opportunities for school bus operators to retrofit their existing buses.
- \$2 million in EPA grants to **repower two switcher locomotives**. Equipment targeted for repower includes locomotives that currently operate in Valley rail yards.

### August Healthy Air Living Tip

***To reduce air pollution when barbecuing, consider using a gas-fired grill instead of charcoal. Make use of the summer heat and line-dry your clothes when possible – you will minimize your energy bill and reduce air pollution. For more clean-air tips, see [www.healthyairliving.com](http://www.healthyairliving.com).***

## June-July District Activities

### *Outreach and Communications*

- Hundreds of Valley residents received \$500 vouchers to repair older vehicles that did not meet smog standards at Tune In, Tune Up events held around the region. OC staff met with media Valley-wide to promote the new Air Alert program. More than 8,000 employers received a mailing inviting them to participate in “Air Friendly Fridays,” another way the District is asking the public to make one change for cleaner air.
- Outreach and Communications responded to 151 public calls or emails and 46 media calls in June and July. Eight news releases were distributed to Valley-wide media about incentive funding, air quality status and the video contest. Staff participated in 20 outreach events throughout the Valley during the two months.

### *Grant and Incentive Programs*

- The District received 469 incentive program applications in June and July. Of those, 273 were for the Lawn and Garden Program and 96 were for the Remove II Program. \$243,180.10 in REMOVE II Program claims were paid during those months.
- \$47,750 in Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-out Program claims were paid in June and July. 76 claims were processed.
- \$17,105,767.36 was placed under contract in Heavy-Duty Engine Program grant funds in June and July. \$10,520,869.22 was paid out in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims.

Component	Number of Claims	Amount Paid
Ag Engine	84	\$ 1,536,718.37
Ag-UTV	14	\$ 29,173.00
Off-Road	33	\$ 983,925.76
On-Road	15	\$ 69,596.25
On-Road Prop 1B	76	\$ 3,685,000.00
On-Road VIP	2	\$ 80,000.00
On-Road DERA VIP	1	\$ 34,756.38
School Bus Replacement	16	\$ 1,541,373.39
School Bus Retrofit	329	\$ 2,560,326.07

## Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

	• NOx	179
	• PM	14
	• ROG	<u>5</u>
Total:		198

## Operations Overview

- **Compliance** completed 2,561 inspections in June and 2,801 in July. 156 NOVS were issued in both June and July. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 214 in June and 239 in July.
- **Permits** received 317 applications in June and 455 in July. 297 permits were issued in June, 300 in July.
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 24 smoking vehicle reports in June and 17 in July.
- **The District** received 121 environmental documents for review in June and 92 in July.

## Upcoming Meetings

<b>Governing Board*</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee*</b>	<b>Environmental Justice Adv. Grp.</b>
<b>9 a.m. Thurs., Sept. 15</b>	<b>10 a.m. Tues., Sept. 6</b>	<b>5:30 pm Tues., Aug. 23</b>

Meetings are held in the Governing Board Room in the Fresno office and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Details: [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) \*webcast

### New & Renewing\* Healthy Air Living Partners

Account Control Technology, Bakersfield □ American Lung Assn. in Calif., Bakersfield □  
City of Bakersfield □ City of Lodi □ City of Manteca □ City of Stockton □  
Coalition for Clean Air, Fresno □ Fresno City College □ Fresno Council of Governments\*  
□ Fresno-Madera Medical Society\* □ Fresno Valves and Casting □ Nestle Dreyer's Ice  
Cream, Bakersfield □ San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton □ Sunny Gem, LLC, Wasco □  
Pelco by Schneider Electric\*, Clovis □ Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP\* □ Sierra View District  
Hosp., Porterville □ Tulare County Office of Ed., Visalia □ Warren & Baerg Mfg., Fresno

See [www.healthyairliving.com](http://www.healthyairliving.com) to join the clean-air effort as a Healthy Air Living Partner!