

District Highlights

August 16, 2012 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Governing Board approved new scoring and funding criteria for the District's competitive Public Benefit Grants Program. The new criteria will be used to select cost-effective emissions reduction projects that will help expedite attainment of health-based air quality standards throughout the Valley. The Board also voted to allow applicants who had previously submitted proposals to provide supplemental information to address the updated scoring and funding criteria.
- The Board approved a contract with the Central California Asthma Collaborative for \$96,000 to further develop and implement school-focused distribution of information for the Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) and Air Quality Flag programs. The board also approved continuing a partnership with Valley Public Television to promote air-quality content for its Kids Count programming and Healthy Air Living on-air outreach.
- The Board heard an update on the development of the District's 2012 PM2.5 plan, due in December to the Environmental Protection Agency. The plan is being developed in an extensive public process to meet the 24-hour PM2.5 standard adopted by U.S. EPA in 2006. While significant progress has been made in developing draft proposals for the plan, meeting the standard by 2019 in the Valley will still be a great challenge, and uncertainties related to transportation budgets still need to be resolved before an approvable plan that demonstrates attainment with the standard can be finalized. The District will hold another public workshop to present and receive comments on the draft plan on Aug. 29. The workshop may be attended in person in Fresno or through video teleconferencing at the District's Modesto and Bakersfield offices.
- The Board adopted a position opposing pending legislation SB 1468, which would allow fireworks sales from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2. The use of fireworks routinely results in excessively high concentrations of particulate matter well above the health-based standards, and when combined with stagnant weather conditions, which are typical during Valley winters, the air basin often experiences particulate matter concentrations that are hundreds of times higher than typical concentrations. This is a health threat and also jeopardizes the air basin's attainment of federal standards.

August Healthy Air Living Tip

Idling in your car produces significant avoidable emissions. The average passenger vehicle in California idles for 30 hours over the period of a year, consuming an amount of fuel equivalent to travelling 900 miles. **Tip: Avoid idling time as much as possible and turn off your car's engine if you're going to be stopped for more than 10 seconds. For more clean-air tips, see www.healthyairliving.com.**

June-July District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- Outreach and Communications closed the For Reel Video Contest in June and selected finalists, from which the public selected the Grand Prize Winner: Andrew Beard, a junior at Fremont High School in Bakersfield. Andrew won an iPad and iTunes gift card, and his video will be shown on Bakersfield TV. In July, the OC team also debuted an educational video produced in-house through a partnership with California Citrus Mutual, which focused on the industry's air-friendly practices. The video received a warm reception at a CCM board meeting.
- The District's rewarding Healthy Air Living partnership with Valley Public Television continued to gain momentum as staff received hundreds of requests for the "Blue Sky, Brown Sky" kit for children.

- OC responded to 55 public calls or emails and 11 media calls, and issued two news releases in June. In July, OC responded to 100 public calls and 10 media calls, and issued three news releases. During June and July, staff took part in District staff took part in 12 outreach events.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 308 incentive program applications in June and July. 47 were for the Wood Stove Change Out Program and 97 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- \$4,226,967 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program grant funds in June and July and \$5,936,908 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims was paid.

Program	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts sent out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Claims paid	Sum of Grant Funding
Heavy Duty	97	123	\$4,226,495.28	120	\$4,226,967.51	138	\$5,936,908.85
School Bus	1	15	\$467,787.61	10	\$260,804.10	934	\$17,512,331.29
On-Road Prop 1B	0	100	\$14,870,000.00	74	\$9,890,000.00	18	\$1,060,000.00
Lawn and Garden	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	6	\$1,350.00
REMOVE	161	127	\$64,310.00	128	\$4,064,310.00	610	\$1,366,593.40
Burn Cleaner	47	54	\$29,100.00	54	\$29,100.00	77	\$42,100.00
Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$280,000.00	2	\$107,816.71
Public Benefit	2	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	30	\$421,872.57
Totals	308	419	\$19,657,692.89	388	\$18,751,181.61	1815	\$26,448,972.82

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
1,406	80	40	1,526

- \$1,366,953 was paid out in REMOVE II Program claims.
- \$42,100 in Wood Stove Change Out Program claims was paid and 77 claims were processed.

Operations Overview

- **Compliance** completed 3879 inspections in June. 169 NOVS were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 162. In July, 2880 inspections were completed and 166 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 304.
- **Permits** received 241 applications in June. 421 permits were issued. In July, 170 applications were received and 329 permits were issued.
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 30 smoking vehicle reports in June and 22 in July.
- **The District** received 133 environmental documents for review in June and 151 in July.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*
9 a.m. Thurs., Sept. 20

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10 a.m. Tues., Sept. 4

Environmental Justice Adv. Grp.
5:30 pm Thurs., Aug. 23

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

*Webcast