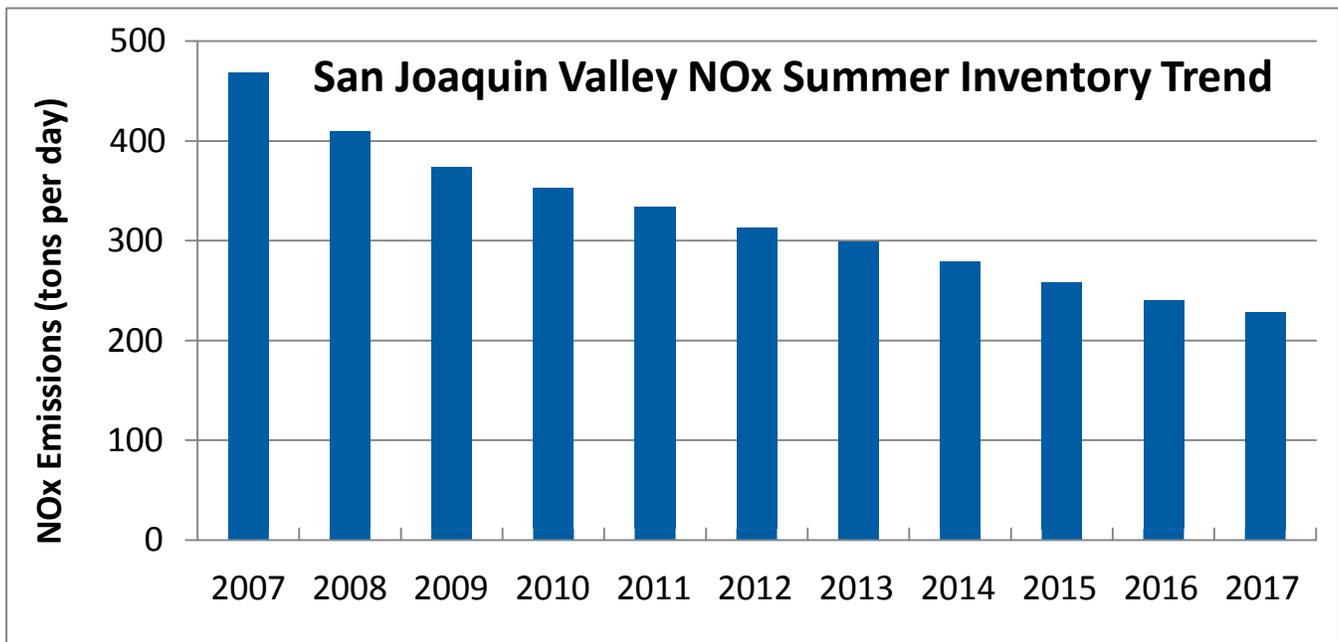


District Highlights

September 19, 2013 Actions by the Governing Board

District Adopts New Air Quality Plan – The Valley’s ozone levels are better today than ever. Since 1996, the number of 1-hour ozone violations has been reduced by 97%. In 2013, despite heat episodes and wildfires, the District has had no violations of the 1-hour ozone standard. In fact, the District is on the verge of attaining the standard for which the District was once designated as “extreme” nonattainment.

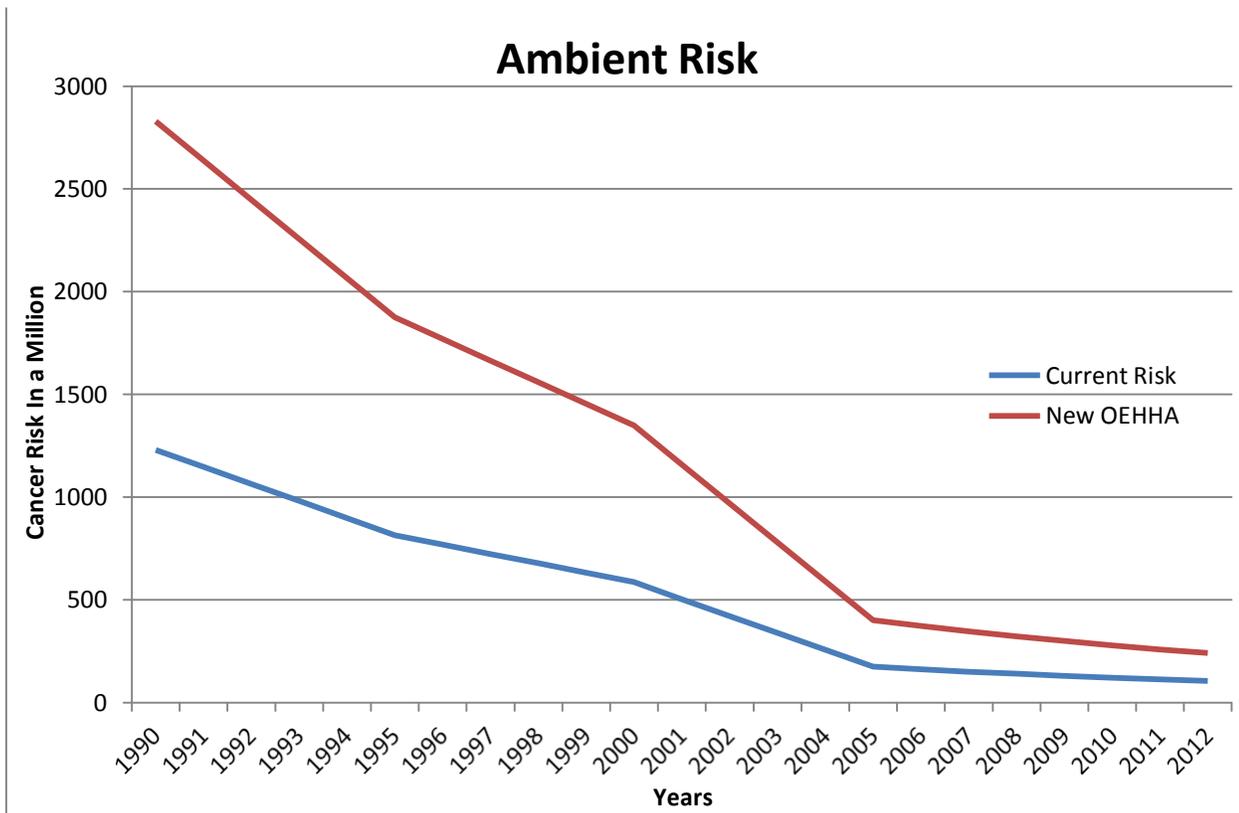
Although the District has seen tremendous air quality progress, federal law still mandates that a new plan be adopted for the revoked 1-hour ozone standard. The new plan adopted by the Governing Board takes full advantage of sweeping control measures previously adopted by the District, which will continue to achieve significant emissions reductions in the coming years.



District to Survey Valley Residents – Historically, the Governing Board has relied on sound science and measurable results in guiding District actions. Towards that end, the Governing Board approved a contract with Gomez Research for an in-depth quantitative and qualitative survey of Valley residents. The survey will include a Valley-wide statistically significant sample and will be in English and in Spanish. The survey results will be used to inform the design of the District’s incentive programs and outreach efforts to promote cleaner wood burning, lawn care, and driving habits. The results will also be used in the development of upcoming amendments to the District’s residential wood-burning rule, which is aimed at reducing wintertime exposure to toxic wood smoke in Valley neighborhoods.

Governing Board Provides Guidance on Proposed Changes to the State’s Health Risk

Assessment Methodologies – In the next few months, the Governor’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is expected to release new guidelines that will change the way the health risk due to air pollution is calculated in California. Although the new methodology will result in higher calculated risk, it is indisputable by any measure that Valley residents’ exposure to hazardous air pollution and actual health risks have been significantly reduced.



The District follows the OEHHA health risk guidelines in establishing permitting and CEQA requirements and public notification requirements under state law. The proposed changes will more than double the calculated risk as compared to the current methodology for identical projects. Failure to update the District's risk management policies may have serious impacts on the ability of businesses to obtain permits and may cause significant confusion and concern for Valley residents. The Board adopted the following guiding principles for use in revising risk management policies:

1. Incorporate all portions of OEHHA's revised Risk Assessment Guidelines designed to provide enhanced protection of children.
2. Adjust permitting risk thresholds, as necessary, to prevent unreasonable restrictions on permitting of stationary sources and CEQA projects while preventing any relaxations of current health protections.
3. In order to enhance the public's right-to-know and health protection, retain the District's current public notification and health risk reduction thresholds used in implementing the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act.
4. Incorporate all possible streamlining of the health risk assessment process to minimize administrative costs and burden to Valley businesses.
5. Develop effective outreach tools and processes to communicate with communities and businesses regarding revised procedures and risk estimates.

September Healthy Air Living Tip

Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and sudden braking) increases emissions and can lower your gas mileage by up to 33 percent at highway speeds and 5 percent in town.

Reference: <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drivehabits.shtml>

Tip: When driving, anticipate traffic stops; accelerate and brake slowly and smoothly. In addition to reducing vehicle emissions, the driver of an average car will save \$10 every 100 miles driven! Less aggressive driving is also safer for you, your passengers, and others sharing the road.

For more clean air tips, see www.healthvairliving.com.

August District Activities Outreach and Communications

- Wildfires throughout the air basin continued in August, keeping Outreach and Communications busy with external outreach. Staff assisted the Grants Program with refining the materials and outreach for another incentive program, Burn Cleaner. OC conducted media and public outreach for the season's first Air Alert.
- OC staff responded to 39 media calls and 115 public calls and emails, attended 4 presentations and events, and issued six news releases on Air Alert, truck grants and wildfire-related health cautions.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 368 incentive program applications in August. 51 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 198 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- \$5,022,142 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program grant funds in August and \$7,035,934 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims was paid.

August 2013	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
		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	198	82	\$3,092,239.66	110	\$5,022,142.27	184	\$7,035,934.15
School Bus	1	5	\$650,385.64	3	\$194,660.17	51	\$996,722.24
On-Road Prop 1B	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	94	\$4,335,000.00
Lawn and Garden	18	29	\$6,349.00	29	\$6,349.00	109	\$23,984.50
REMOVE	95	228	\$137,500.00	228	\$137,500.00	653	\$667,045.60
Burn Cleaner	51	52	\$26,000.00	52	\$26,000.00	30	\$17,750.00
Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	26	\$786,000.82
Public Benefit	5	2	\$82,390.96	4	\$328,370.26	35	\$528,166.47
Totals	368	398	\$3,994,865.26	426	\$5,715,021.70	1,182	\$14,390,603.78

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
537	31	64	632

Smoking Vehicles	15
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- In August, \$667,045 was paid out in REMOVE II Program claims.
- \$17,750 in Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-Out Program claims was paid in August and 30 claims were processed.

Operations Overview

- **Compliance** completed 3,369 inspections in August. 210 NOVS were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 105.
- **Permits** received 238 applications in August. 239 permits were issued
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 15 smoking vehicle reports.
- **The District** received 130 environmental documents for review in August.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*
9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10 a.m. Tues., Dec. 3

Environmental Justice Adv. Grp.
5:30 p.m. Thurs., Oct. 24

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