

District Highlights

January 19, 2017 Actions by the Governing Board

District Successfully Competes for \$5 Million in Federal Funding for Cleaner Trucks and Wood-burning Devices

The Valley Air District Governing Board approved \$4,954,500 in funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to fund the replacement of heavy-duty trucks and wood-burning devices. These two grants were awarded under EPA's highly competitive Targeted Air Shed Grant Program and together represent fifty percent of the available funding for Region 9. The truck funding will be utilized in the District's highly-successful Truck Voucher Program which, to date, has replaced more than 1,230 older, high-polluting trucks with new, cleaner vehicles. This grant will provide funding to replace an additional 112 trucks. The funding for wood-burning devices will be utilized in the District's innovative Burn Cleaner Incentive Program to facilitate the replacement of more than 2,400 high-polluting wood burning devices with new, certified clean-burning units. To date, the Burn Cleaner Program has funded more than 11,692 new clean-burning heating devices in the San Joaquin Valley.

District Board Approves Amendments to Highly-Successful Ag Tractor Replacement Program

The Valley Air District Governing Board approved amendments to the District's Agricultural Tractor Replacement Program to reflect increased equipment costs and ensure a continued high level of participation. Since 2009, the District has replaced more than 3,250 high-polluting tractors and other equipment with new, cleaner units, resulting in the reduction of more than 26,000 tons of harmful emissions. The success of the District's program is predicated on providing adequate incentives to farmers to voluntarily replace their older equipment that may have substantial remaining useful life. The recent rise in equipment costs, with no commensurate increase in incentive levels has led to a decrease in overall participation. Given the importance of this program in helping the Valley attain federal air quality standards, it is critical that this program remain relevant and responsive to the needs of the agricultural community. Therefore, the Governing Board approved increases to incentive levels for this program as well as the creation of new funding categories. It is expected that these changes will result in significantly increased participation and continued cost-effective emission reductions in this category.

Governing Board Approves 2017 Legislative Platform

The Governing Board approved the District's 2017 Legislative Platform that establishes the District's 2017 legislative priorities. Following the approval of the platform, Staff will distribute the platform to the Valley state and federal delegations and will advocate for the District's priorities with appropriate state/federal policymakers. The following are the District's 2017 legislative priorities:

- Seek fair application of federal clean air mandates
- Seek federal ultra-low NOx standard for on-road heavy-duty trucks and locomotives
- Seek increased state and federal incentive funding to achieve reductions from sources outside of the District's control that are necessary to achieve federal air quality standards
- Support the Commonsense Legislative Exceptional Events Reform (CLEER) Act that will bring more certainty and streamline the EPA exceptional events approval process

- Seek revenue from the Cap and Trade program
- Ensure that greenhouse gas emissions reduction programs are not at the expense of criteria pollutant programs
- Support legislation extending the District’s existing authority for DMV fees to match applicable federally mandated attainment deadlines
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities are not “redlined” for economic growth and that local control over resources to assist these communities is maintained
- Seek adequate funding from state/federal government for the installation and operation of air quality monitoring instruments
- Support efforts that provide for cost-effective alternatives to agricultural burning
- Seek state and federal funding for technology advancement projects
- Support for adequate resources/policies to reduce the air quality impact of wildfires

December District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- The District spent December pushing the Burn Cleaner program and encouraging the public to register their devices. The District also supported local schools and attended events on campus to promote the District’s message.
- In December, District staff responded to 12 media calls and 107 public calls and 65 emails, issued two news releases and attended 42 events and presentations.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- In December, the District received 732 incentive program applications. 418 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 79 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In December, \$8,226,924.88 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and 91 claims were paid.
- In December, \$1,603,791.65 was paid out in REMOVE II program claims.
- In December, \$403,113.07 was paid in Burn Cleaner program claims and 246 claims were processed.

	December 2016	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
Key	Program	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
Burn Cleaner	Burn Cleaner	418	448	\$772,500.00	448	\$772,500.00	246	\$403,113.07
Heavy Duty	Ag Engine	3	8	\$70,959.38	1	\$35,000.00	6	\$163,478.93
	Off-Road	40	22	\$1,072,874.63	53	\$2,190,324.63	42	\$2,863,778.54
	On-Road	1	1	\$2,324,790.00	1	\$2,324,790.00	0	\$0.00
	On-Road DERA VIP	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	3	\$40,880.44
	On-Road Prop 1B	0	5	\$300,000.00	4	\$245,000.00	9	\$355,000.00
	On-Road TVP	35	43	\$1,718,593.00	43	\$1,718,593.00	24	\$1,027,793.64
	On-Road VIP	0	1	\$18,073.30	1	\$18,073.30	0	\$0.00
	School Bus Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	3	\$293,140.18	7	\$491,240.74

	School Bus Tank Replacement	0	1	\$21,634.57	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Lawn Garden	Lawn Mower Replacement	3	3	\$750.00	3	\$750.00	9	\$2,050.00
Public Benefit	Alt-Fuel	0	6	\$264,081.51	10	\$588,769.06	24	\$434,500.00
	Enhanced Transportation Strategies	0	1	\$459,270.00	1	\$459,270.00	0	\$0.00
Remove II	Bicycle Infrastructure	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$10,689.00
	Car Crushing	40	50	\$420,000.00	50	\$420,000.00	118	\$957,187.50
	Charge Up	2	2	\$37,000.00	2	\$15,000.00	0	\$0.00
	VVIP - Commuter Subsidy	37	1067	\$81,360.00	1067	\$81,360.00	1,987	\$59,610.00
	E-Mobility	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$8,246.67
	Drive Clean - Light and Medium Duty	153	91	\$257,000.00	91	\$257,000.00	200	\$568,058.48
TAP	Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$500,000.00	0	\$0.00
	Totals	732	1749	\$7,818,886.39	1779	\$9,919,570.17	2,677	\$7,385,627.01

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
356	66,245	26	66,627

Smoking Vehicles	6
------------------	---

Operations Overview

- Completed 1,707 inspections in December, and 350 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 93.
- Received 109 permit applications in December, and 509 permits were issued.
- Received 6 smoking vehicle reports in December.
- Received 175 environmental documents in December.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*
9:00 a.m. Mar. 16, 2017

Citizens Advisory Committee*
10:00 a.m. Mar. 7, 2017

Enviro. Justice Adv. Grp.
5:30 p.m. April 27, 2017

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