

# District Highlights

## February 15, 2018 Actions by the Governing Board

### **District Hosts Summit on Alternatives to Open Burning on Agricultural Waste**

As a part of the District's ongoing efforts to identify and advance cleaner alternatives to the open burning of agricultural waste, on November 7th and 8th, 2017, the District held the Central Valley Summit on Alternatives to Open Burning of Agricultural Waste, which brought together a wide array of Valley growers, researchers/experts, representatives from the biomass power industry, representatives from new and developing technology vendors, and other Valley stakeholders. At the February meeting, the Governing Board received an update on the major lessons learned from the Summit and directed staff to take the following actions to continue advancing cleaner alternatives while minimizing emission impacts from agricultural burning in the short-term:

- Withhold rolling back the District's current agricultural burning prohibitions until further work on exploring and advancing alternatives to open burning is completed.
- Continue to implement the District's Smoke Management System safeguards to ensure no adverse air quality impact from authorized agricultural open burning.
- Explore the feasibility of utilizing air curtain burn boxes subject to the District's Smoke Management System safeguards as an extension of agricultural operations.
- Continue to support state and federal financial assistance to biomass power industry for the disposal of agricultural waste.
- Support technology advancement for emerging cleaner alternatives to the open burning of agricultural waste, with priority given to on-the-farm deployable (minimum or no transportation related emissions) and scalable technologies.
- In assessing the feasibility of alternatives to open burning, consider the full life-cycle emissions and impact on air quality.

### **District Accepts \$6.3 Million in Federal Funding to Replace Heavy-Duty Trucks and Tractors**

The District Governing Board accepted \$6.3 million in federal Targeted Air Shed Grant Program funds to replace older, high-polluting trucks and tractors in the Valley. These two grants were awarded under EPA's highly competitive Targeted Air Shed Grant Program and together represent 50% of the total funding available to the states in Region 9. The truck funding will be utilized in the District's highly-successful Truck Voucher Program which, to date, has replaced more than 1,700 older, high-polluting trucks with new, cleaner vehicles. This grant will provide funding to replace an additional 144 trucks. The funding for tractor replacement will be utilized in the District's Agricultural Tractor Replacement Program which has replaced more than 4,200 older, high-polluting tractors with cleaner units. This funding will be utilized to facilitate the replacement of an additional 240 tractors in the San Joaquin Valley.

### **District Accepts \$108 Million in Funding to Replace Valley Agricultural Equipment**

The District Governing Board accepted \$108 million in state Cap and Trade Funds for the purpose of replacing older, high-polluting mobile agricultural equipment and trucks. As a direct result of the District's advocacy efforts working closely with Valley stakeholders, the recently approved Cap and Trade legislative package includes significant new funding for the Valley. Assembly Bills 134 and 109 (AB 134 and AB 109) appropriated \$135 million statewide to reduce emissions from the agricultural sector through the Funding for Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program. The San Joaquin Valley, as the top agricultural producing region in the state, will receive 80% of the total funding and the proposed funding distribution is commensurate with the agricultural equipment inventory as well as the commitment for large reductions in emissions in the State Implementation Plan for the San Joaquin Valley. The District is currently working with ARB to develop the guidelines and specific requirements for implementation, which will be taken before the ARB Board for adoption on March 22-23, 2018.

### **District Approves Plan to Expand Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) Outreach to Encourage more Public Use**

The District developed the Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) to provide Valley residents with timely information on air quality and provide advice on recommended preventative actions that they may consider. The District Governing Board approved a plan to expand the District's existing multi-lingual marketing and outreach campaign by enhancing efforts to more broadly inform the public of the ease, availability and superiority of RAAN as a health protective tool and to encourage them to download the new smart phone app and/or sign up via the newly redesigned web portal to receive automated email or text notifications. The new outreach campaign will enable the District to conduct a media blitz with saturated and repeated messaging to Valley residents over the course of the next three to four months. The District will then incorporate this messaging into the ongoing comprehensive multi-lingual outreach and education which runs throughout the year.

## **January District Activities**

### ***Outreach and Communications***

- The District spent January outreaching to the public educating residents on how to protect themselves from the stint of bad air that got trapped in our Valley. The District also spent time creating new videos for the Grants page on the ValleyAir website, as well as continued outreach to Healthy Air Living Schools.
- In January, District staff responded to 27 media calls and 75 public calls and 41 emails, issued one news release and attended 4 event/presentations.

### ***Grant and Incentive Programs***

- In January, the District received 786 incentive program applications. 281 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 161 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In January, \$6,290,610.79 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and 115 claims were paid.
- In January \$654,529.60 was paid out in REMOVE II program claims.
- In January, \$267,511.00 was paid in Burn Cleaner program claims and 154 claims were processed.

	January 2018	Applications	Grants Offered	Grants Executed	Amount Paid
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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 - Wood Stove Change Out	281	331	\$534,500.00	331	\$534,500.00	154	\$267,511.00
Heavy Duty	Ag Engine	2	0	\$0.00	1	\$26,000.00	2	\$26,000.00
	Locomotive	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$948,000.00	0	\$0.00
	Off-Road	136	47	\$3,696,750.24	16	\$1,233,620.31	15	\$1,296,500.29
	On-Road Prop 1B	0	17	\$1,670,000.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	On-Road TVP	22	12	\$379,302.76	12	\$379,302.76	67	\$1,821,805.52
	School Bus Replacement	1	3	\$544,557.79	3	\$303,013.09	1	\$90,632.67
	School Bus Retrofit	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	30	\$501,390.31
Lawn Garden	Lawn Mower Replacement	6	17	\$3,750.00	17	\$3,750.00	15	\$3,250.00
Public Benefit	Alt-Fuel	1	0	\$0.00	4	\$205,559.25	14	\$202,147.04
Remove II	Bicycle Infrastructure	0	1	\$6,144.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Car Crushing	82	84	\$424,452.42	84	\$424,390.42	102	\$405,237.84
	Charge Up	0	0	\$0.00	5	\$25,000.00	0	\$0.00
	VVIP - Commuter Subsidy	66	1613	\$48,390.00	1613	\$48,390.00	1,038	\$31,140.00
	E-Mobility	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$10,465.97
	Drive Clean - Light and Medium Duty	189	81	\$210,685.79	81	\$210,685.79	80	\$207,685.79
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>2206</b>	<b>\$7,518,533.00</b>	<b>2168</b>	<b>\$4,342,211.62</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>\$4,863,766.43</b>

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
Nox	PM	ROG	Total
210	480,002	20	480,232

Smoking Vehicles	16
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## Operations Overview

- Completed 2,143 inspections in January, and 409 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 159.
- Received 260 permit applications in January, and 560 permits were issued.
- Received 16 smoking vehicle reports in January.
- Received 154 environmental documents in January.

## Upcoming Meetings

Gov. Board Meeting\*  
Mar. 15, 2018

Citizens Advisory Committee\*  
10:00 a.m. Apr. 3, 2018

Enviro. Justice Adv. Grp.  
5:30 p.m. Apr. 26, 2018

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

*\* Webcast*