



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

March 31, 2004

Project Title: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District Rule 4550 (Conservation Management Practices)

Project Location: All land within the boundaries of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, including the entire counties and all the cities of Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, Tulare, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and the San Joaquin Valley portion of Kern County

Description of Project:

The San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB) is classified as a serious nonattainment area for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM₁₀. The federal Clean Air Act requires areas designated as serious nonattainment for PM₁₀ to implement Best Available Control Measure (BACM) and Best Available Control Technology (BACT) on all significant sources of emissions. In addition, due to the failure by the SJVAB to attain the NAAQS PM₁₀ standard by 2001, the District is required to show a five percent per year reduction in PM₁₀ or PM₁₀ precursors emissions starting in 2003 until attainment is reached. The District is also required to demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS PM₁₀ standards at the earliest possible date.

The 2003 PM₁₀ Plan identified agricultural operation sites as significant sources of emissions and a source for PM₁₀ emissions reduction. Agricultural sources are defined as any activity or portion of land associated with the commercial growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals. Draft Rule 4550 (Conservation Management Practices) is part of the District's particulate matter attainment strategy. Draft Rule 4550 requires owner/operators of agricultural operations to implement conservation management practices (CMP) to reduce PM₁₀ emissions. The reductions will help meet the five percent per year reduction in PM₁₀ emissions and help demonstrate attainment of annual and 24-hour PM₁₀ standards. The 2003 PM₁₀ Plan contains a commitment to implement the CMP Program by July 2004.

Lead Agency: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

Lead Agency Contact Person: Ms. Renee DeVere (559) 230-5800

Addresses where document may be obtained:

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District:

Headquarters Office
1990 E. Gettysburg Ave.
Fresno, CA 93726

Southern Regional Office
2700 'M' Street, Ste 275
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Northern Regional Office
4230 Kiernan Avenue, Ste 130
Modesto, CA 95356

Or on the internet at www.valleyair.org Click on Public Notices and then click on March 31, 2004 item

Public Review Period: Begins: March 31, 2004 and Ends: April 29, 2004

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be held to consider this action on May 20, 2004, 9:00 a.m. at the District Headquarters Office.

***Anyone interested in this matter is invited to comment on the document
by written response on or before 5:00 P.M., April 29, 2004.***