

News Release

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For: local news, business and assignment editors



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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Air District offers charbroiler retrofits incentives

In order to reduce harmful emissions resulting from charbroiling meat, the Valley Air District is offering new funding to retrofit commercial charbroilers.

The Char broiler Incentive Program (CHIP) opens today and will take applications for eight weeks for a total of \$500,000 in funding. This new program is part of the Air District's efforts to advance new emission reduction technologies at sources throughout the Valley.

"Because of the challenges we face in the Valley to attaining clean air, we are looking at all emission sources, and commercial charbroilers are one of those sources," said Samir Sheikh, the director of the Strategies and Incentives Program, which offers the funding.

Commercial under-fired charbroilers emit particulate matter and volatile organic compounds, two categories of pollutant that have harmful health effects.

The Air District estimates five to 10 projects will be funded. Eligibility criteria include:

- Retrofit devices must reduce VOC emissions by 86 percent and particulate matter 10 microns and under (PM10) by 83 percent.
- Targeted devices include:
 - HEPA filtration system
 - Electrostatic precipitator
 - Wet scrubber
 - Thermal oxidizer

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Charbroiler incentives available

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The maximum eligible amount per project will be determined by calculating cost effectiveness. Consideration will be given to restaurant size and the type of control device implemented.

For more information on the program, visit

http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/GrantPrograms.htm.

For more information about the Valley Air District, call a regional office: in Fresno, 559-230-6000; in Bakersfield, 661-392-5500; and in Modesto, 209-557-6400.