

News Release

For immediate release

DATE: 1-26-11



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



For: local news, ag, business and assignment editors

Central District Media Contact - Fresno

Janelle Schneider (559) 230-5853

Northern District Media Contact – Modesto

Anthony Presto (209) 557-6472

Southern District Media Contact –

Bakersfield

Brenda Turner (661) 392-5581

Spanish-language Media Contact

Claudia Encinas (559) 230-5849

Air District puts clean trucks on the road *\$62 million in new funding this year*

The Valley Air District has completed a year-long process to fund the replacement of 548 high-polluting diesel trucks. The District is also announcing new funding for 2011 that will make an additional \$62 million available to more diesel replacement and retrofitting projects. The District will begin accepting applications for new truck replacement and retrofits in March.

In 2010, the District reviewed 2,900 applications for diesel emission-reduction grants, reflecting the great need and demand in the Valley for these funds. The District has aggressively pursued state and federal funding for clean air projects throughout the Valley. These efforts have resulted in a 10-fold increase in available funding over the past five years. Additionally, the District expects any new funding generated from the recently enacted DMV fees to be used for these grants and other programs targeted at reducing emissions from mobile sources.

“These funds are critical to not only the health of the Valley’s residents through cleaner air, but also to the economic vitality of the Valley,” said Seyed Sadredin, the District’s executive director. “Strategic use of these funds will expedite clean air efforts in the Valley while providing a helping hand to the Valley residents and businesses,” he added.

Mobile sources account for the majority of the Valley’s air pollution. Trucks, passenger vehicles and buses produce 56.8 percent of total nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions in the air basin. Last year, the District’s truck grants removed more than 6,000 tons of NOx.

The District’s robust grant programs have put \$326 million back into local communities since its formation. Additional grant programs to benefit Valley residents are being examined on an ongoing basis.

For more information Districts incentive grants, please call 559-230-5800 or visit www.valleyair.org.

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.