

News Release

For immediate release

12-6-13

Attn: Local news, business and assignment editors



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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Local air district urges Valley truckers to attend state air board truck-rule workshop

Learn about local District grants and provide feedback to state on upcoming deadlines

With the Jan. 1, 2014 compliance deadline of the state Air Board's truck rule fast approaching, the Valley Air District and Valley businesses have communicated a number of concerns and suggestions to the state Air Resources Board (ARB). In response to stakeholder suggestions, the ARB has instituted a number of changes providing additional time and flexibility to truckers. At a workshop in the Valley next week, the ARB will explain these changes and solicit comments from Valley stakeholders.

"We are very pleased that the Air Resources Board sees the importance of allowing additional time for these small trucking operations to receive critical funding that allows them to go beyond what is required by this regulation," said Seyed Sadredin, the Valley Air District's executive director and air pollution control officer. "Although these changes provide some needed flexibility, more action by the ARB is needed to ensure effective implementation and avoid economic detriment to Valley businesses."

With trucks being the largest source of smog-producing pollution in the Valley, the Valley Air District has taken a number of actions on its own to help Valley truckers reduce their emissions and comply with the ARB's truck rule.

The Valley Air District has made an additional \$10 million available and broadened its eligibility criteria for the Valley's 15,000-plus single-truck owner/operators and small fleets to receive funding that reduces nitrogen oxides emissions, a major source of the air basin's pollution. This much-needed funding can provide truckers with assistance that further reduces emissions beyond mere rule compliance. To date, the local air district has awarded more than \$114 million in truck funding, replacing more than 2,000 trucks. Additional information is available on the Valley Air District's website at www.valleyair.org/trucks or by calling 1-855-99GRANT (1-855-994-7268).

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State Air Board hosts truck workshop in the Valley

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Workshop details:

Date: Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013

Time: 10a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Valley Air District
1990 E. Gettysburg Ave.
Fresno, CA 93726

VTC locations: Bakersfield office
34946 Flyover Court
Bakersfield, CA

Modesto office
4800 Enterprise Way
Modesto, CA

The public can also attend the workshop by video conference at the Valley Air District's regional offices in Bakersfield and Modesto.