



San Joaquin Valley  
Air Pollution  
Control District

## News Release

**For immediate release:**  
March 28, 2002

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### **Fireplace and wood stove rule up for public discussion next week**

Valley residents will have their first chance next week to help shape rule amendments designed to reduce air pollution from fireplaces and wood-burning stoves.

Public meetings for amendments to the Valley Air District's Rule 4901 are scheduled for 2 p.m. on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Air District office in Fresno, located at 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave. Residents can attend the meetings and make comments via video teleconference at the District offices in Modesto at 4230 Kiernan Ave., Suite 130; and in Bakersfield at 2700 M St., Suite 275. Anyone unable to attend the meetings can mail comments until April 19<sup>th</sup> to Hector Guerra, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave, Fresno, CA 93726 or via e-mail to [hector.guerra@valleyair.org](mailto:hector.guerra@valleyair.org).

Rule 4901, the Air District's residential wood-burning rule that was initially adopted in 1993, is being amended to further reduce emissions of particulate matter 10 microns and smaller (PM10) in the Valley. PM10, which consists of tiny airborne particles and liquid droplets, can be inhaled deep into the lungs and cause serious health problems.

Possible amendments to Rule 4901 could include a mandatory curtailment program for evenings when levels of PM10 are expected to be unhealthy; a requirement that homeowners replace or retire uncertified wood-burning equipment at the time of sale or transfer of property; and a limit on the number of fireplaces and stoves allowed in new developments.

Public comments made during next week's meetings will be incorporated into a draft rule. Additional public workshops for the rule will be held in June and August. The proposed rule is scheduled to be considered by the Air District's Governing Board in November.