



Valley Air News

A publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

August 2000

Mobile Sources and Emission Reductions



Current estimates indicate that mobile sources account for approximately 45% of the District's volatile organic compound (VOC) inventory and approximately 65% of the District's nitrogen oxide (NOx) inventory.

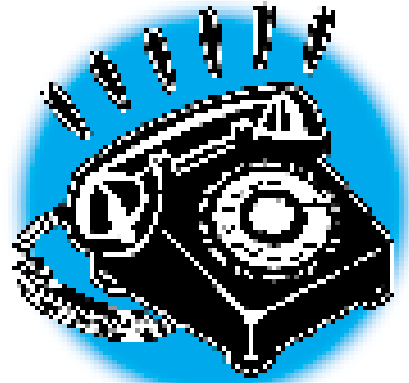
Mobile sources are a significant portion of the Valley Air District's inventory of ozone precursors and will play a significant role in the District's upcoming federal one-hour "severe" ozone attainment demonstration plan. Current estimates indicate that mobile sources account for approximately 45 percent of the District's volatile organic compound (VOC) inventory and approximately 65 percent of the District's nitrogen oxide (NOx) inventory. Effective and timely control of mobile sources is essential to attaining air quality standards in the San Joaquin Valley.

Unlike stationary sources, the District has no direct regulatory control over emission reductions from mobile sources. The District operates a number of incentive and voluntary programs that achieve direct motor vehicle emissions reductions. While these programs have seen increased emphasis and funding in recent years they are still a relatively small part of mobile source control strategy. The majority of the authority and resources available to control mobile sources lie with other agencies.

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) is a world leader in the control of motor vehicle emissions. In future years, substantial reductions will be achieved from the second phase of the ARB Low Emission Vehicle Program (LEV II). LEV II will usher in a new generation of vehicles that are substantially cleaner than vehicles available today.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the primary authority for the control of heavy-duty vehicle emissions. The EPA is currently considering nationwide diesel fuel and heavy-duty engine standards. The first phase is a 95 percent reduction in the sulfur content of diesel fuel. With the reduction of sulfur in

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Complaint Procedures

What should you do if you notice a cloud of smoke and suspect illegal burning or detect a strong, foul odor? Both cases might be violations of current air pollution regulations and should be reported.

The Valley Air District receives approximately 3,000 complaints regarding air pollution from concerned citizens each year. Satisfactory and timely resolution of these inquiries is of utmost importance. Responding to complaints is a priority for inspectors, especially investigations of a violation in progress.

Toll-free complaint lines are:

- Merced, San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties— (800) 281-7003
- Fresno, Kings and Madera Counties— (800) 870-1037
- Kern and Tulare Counties— (800) 926-5550

For additional information, request the *Complaint Procedures* publication from the Valley Air District.

GOVERNING BOARD REVIEW

There was no July Governing Board Meeting.

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The next Governing Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17, at 9:00 AM in the District's Central office in Fresno, and via video-teleconference in the Modesto and Bakersfield offices.

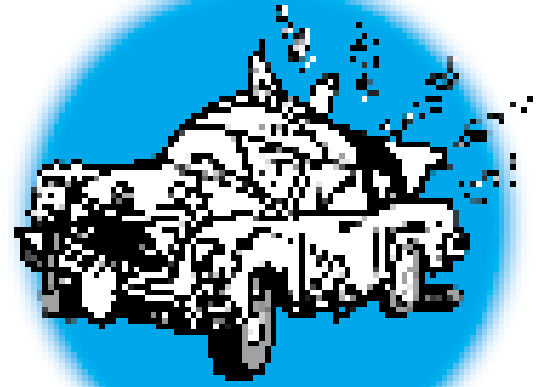


New Air Permitting Professionals

The Valley Air District congratulates Kimberly Williams of Berry Petroleum and Tricia Bartholome of Ashworth Leininger Group for successfully completing the Certified Air Permitting Professional (CAPP) program.

The CAPP program provides a pool of professionals that verify and certify permit applications as being in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations.

For a complete list of CAPP members, visit www.valleyair.org; or contact George Heinen at (559) 230-5909.



Consumer Assistance Program Launched

The Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau of Automotive Repair launched a new Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) last month. The program offers three options to help California consumers bring vehicles in need of Smog Check repairs into compliance with California emissions standards. Throughout the next four years, the program seeks to repair or retire 50,000 of these vehicles, considered major polluters.

The following available options are:

- **Repair Assistance** – qualified motorists may receive up to \$500 in emissions-related repairs from the state. Repairs must be performed at state authorized Smog Check repair station.
- **Vehicle Retirement** – eligible motorists who voluntarily retire their vehicles to the state rather than repair them may receive \$1,000 in exchange for their vehicle.
- **Repair Cost Waiver** – motorists who either do not qualify for repair assistance or choose not to retire their vehicles are allowed to register the vehicle without passing the Smog Check inspection. A temporary (two-year) extension will be issued to complete all emissions-related repairs.

"The Consumer Assistance Program is a win-win for California consumers and the environment," said Kathleen Hamilton, Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs. "This investment will help clean the air, give consumers a break and create a healthier future," Hamilton added.

For additional information about the Smog Check Consumer Assistance Programs, please call (800) 952-5210. *This program is not affiliated with the Valley Air District.*

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diesel fuel, catalysts and other exhaust aftertreatment devices can be applied to reduce heavy-duty vehicle emissions. Important issues in the San Joaquin Valley are the timeline for implementation and the application of the standards to off-road equipment.

At the local level the largest resources for mobile source emission reduction lie with eight Transportation Planning Agencies (TPA) in the San Joaquin Valley. The eight TPAs will receive approximately \$160 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds (CMAQ) during a six-year period. The purpose of the CMAQ program is to support the region's air quality plan. It is important that the CMAQ funds are allocated to cost-effective air quality projects and achieve the most cost-effective air quality emission reductions possible.

It is in the interest of San Joaquin Valley residents to ensure that current commitments to motor vehicle emission reductions proceed on schedule and that new opportunities for reductions are fully pursued. Leaders and elected officials in the Central Valley need to make certain that these programs are as successful as possible.



Seeking Nominees for *In the Spotlight*

Do you know an individual, business, or organization that is going above and beyond the call of duty in implementing air pollution reducing activities? Nominees for future issues of *Valley Air News* are currently being accepted.

Maybe someone who knows promotes carpooling or trip linking at work? Or a business that offers incentives to employees that eat-in at work?

Perhaps you know a *Spare the Air* partner that uses innovative ways of alerting their employees or customers on *Spare the Air* days?

Nominees, when selected, would be featured in this publication as a positive way of assisting in the reduction of air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley, specifically ground-level ozone.

To submit a nomination, please call Public Education at (559) 230-5800, or, if you prefer, send an e-mail to peter.robertson@valleyair.org.



Spare the Air e-mails

If you are a *Spare the Air* Employer Partner and wish to receive notifications via e-mail, please contact Brandy Nikaido at brandy.nikaido@valleyair.org.



2001 Calendar Contest

Please notify elementary school teachers and students!

San Joaquin Valley children in grades kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to submit a clean air drawing for consideration in the Valley Air District's 2001 *For a Clearer Future Calendar* contest.

Thirteen drawings will be selected from three age groups (K-1, 2-3, 4-6) and featured in the calendar. Deadline for entries is September 29, 2000.

For specific rules and details, please call Public Education at (559) 230-5800.