

News Release

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For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

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Blowing dust prompts caution *Portions of Kings, Kern counties may see impacts*

Gusty winds in portions of the San Joaquin Valley have prompted air officials to issue a health cautionary statement until midnight tonight.

Strong winds across the western portions of Kings and Kern counties are causing localized areas of blowing dust, increasing concentrations of particulate matter 10 microns and smaller (PM10).

“We are urging residents to be aware of their local conditions and take appropriate precautions to protect their health,” said Jon Klassen, air quality specialist with the District.

Exposure to particulate pollution can cause serious health problems, aggravate lung disease, cause asthma attacks and exacerbate respiratory conditions. Residents throughout the Valley are advised to evaluate their local conditions and use caution where warranted until midnight Tuesday. People with heart or lung disease should follow their doctor’s orders for dealing with episodes of elevated particulate matter.

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the Valley air basin portion of Kern. Visit www.valleyair.org to learn more.