

News Release

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For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

TO:
Local News Sections

North District Media Contact - Modesto
Anthony Presto: (209) 557-6400

Central District Media Contact - Fresno
Kelly Morphy: (559) 230-6000

South District Media Contact - Bakersfield
Brenda Turner: (661) 326-6900

Valley Air District appoints deputy

Former Director of Compliance takes reigns as Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer

The Valley Air District has a new second-in-command, following the appointment of Rick McVaigh to Deputy Director/Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer.

McVaigh, who has an extensive professional background in air quality, assumes the post of deputy director immediately.

“Rick has played a key role in some of the District’s most innovative and successful efforts to reduce air-pollution emissions,” said Seyed Sadredin, the Air District’s Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer. “His ability to work effectively with Valley stakeholders and his strong technical background will be great assets to the air basin as we work to meet the challenges ahead.”

The deputy director position has been vacant since March, when then-Deputy Director Sadredin was named to replace retiring Executive Director Dave Crow.

McVaigh earned a bachelor of science degree in Chemical Engineering from University of California, Berkeley in 1979. He has worked for the Air District since it formed in 1992. Most recently, he served as the Air District’s Director of Compliance, a position he held since June 2005.

McVaigh started his professional career in the private sector, working as a process engineer, quality-control manager and chemist from 1980 through 1991 at Prestolite Co., Exide Corp. and Beckman Instruments, all in Tulare County.

He entered the field of air-pollution control in 1991 as an air-quality engineer with Kings County. He accepted the same position with the Air District in 1992 and took a promotion in 1993 to be a senior engineer. The following year, he accepted another promotion to take on duties as the Technical Services Manager. He became Permit Services Manager in 1997 and held that post until his promotion to Director of Compliance last year.

The California Air Pollution Control Officers’ Association also has drawn upon McVaigh’s expertise, twice tapping him as chairman: he chaired the Title V subcommittee from 2001 through 2004 and the Toxics and Risk Managers Committee in 2004 and 2005.

McVaigh, 49, lives with his wife Karen in Visalia. They have two children: Mathew, 26, and Jill, 20.

“We truly have the ability in the San Joaquin Valley to lead the nation in innovative and successful air programs,” McVaigh said. “I’m excited to be part of this effort and hope to help it become a success story that all Valley residents are proud of.”

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the valley portion of Kern. For more information, visit www.valleyair.org. Or, call the nearest District office: Modesto (209) 557-6400, Fresno (559) 230-6000 and Bakersfield (661) 326-6900.

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