

News Release

For immediate release

DATE: 5-4-11



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



For: local news and assignment editors

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Interview and photo opportunity

- WHO:** **Supervisor Leroy Ornellas**, San Joaquin County
Executive Director/APCO Seyed Sadredin, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
Superintendent Jason Messer, Manteca Unified School District
- WHAT:** District's newest air monitoring station
- WHEN:** Wednesday, May 11, 10 a.m.
- WHERE:** Sierra High School
1700 Thomas St., Manteca

Officials offer look at Valley's newest air monitoring station

Air District officials and representatives of Manteca Unified School District will offer a look at the District's newest air monitoring station on Wed., May 11 at 10 a.m.

The station, which meets the newest federal monitoring requirements for fine particulate matter (PM2.5), measures pollution in virtually all of Manteca and adds to the District's already extensive network of monitoring stations.

The station, which also monitors for coarse particles (PM10) and includes a full meteorological array – temperature, barometric pressure, and wind speed and direction – is valuable for obtaining real-time data used in daily forecasting, including Check Before You Burn, and for future research potential, officials said.

"We installed this station to meet the needs of growing population in San Joaquin County," said Seyed Sadredin, the District's air pollution control officer and executive director. "The data from this station will be very valuable, further improving the accuracy of air quality forecasting and long-term research projects."

The station was sited to capture exposure to pollution by the residents of Manteca and to study components of wind coming into the Valley. With the new Manteca site, the District's air monitoring network now includes 34 monitoring stations Valley-wide, four of which are in San Joaquin County.

"Protecting the public's health is our priority, and stations such as this enable us to continue to increase our understanding of the unique characteristics of the Valley's air quality," he said.

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5-4-11

Page 2 of 2

For more information about the Air District and air quality monitoring, call the Modesto office at (209) 557-6400 or visit www.valleyair.org.