



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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NEWS

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SCAQMD Inspections Help Prevent Excess Truck Idling

The South Coast Air Quality Management District this month initiated inspections of idling big-rig trucks near distribution warehouses and environmental justice communities to protect residents from toxic diesel exhaust.

“Residents in environmental justice communities can be exposed to large amounts of diesel fumes from trucks and other sources,” said Wayne Nastri, SCAQMD’s executive officer. “Our new enforcement effort is aimed at curbing illegal idling and protecting residents’ health.”

Earlier this month, a team of SCAQMD field inspectors inspected more than 200 trucks in the Inland Empire, concentrating on areas in Mira Loma, Fontana and Ontario where trucks park near warehouses.

Under state law, trucks are prohibited from idling for longer than five minutes, unless they have a “Clean-Idle” sticker indicating the engine has very low emissions under idle conditions.

During this month’s inspection, SCAQMD inspectors found that more than 75 percent of trucks observed did have Clean-Idle stickers. Of all trucks observed, about 12 percent were idling. Inspectors verified only one violation of truck idling regulations.

“So far we have found good compliance with idling regulations,” Nastri said. “Our enforcement presence will provide a deterrent to illegal idling and excess diesel emissions.”

SCAQMD plans to continue deploying teams of inspectors periodically to enforce state anti-idling requirements, focusing on areas near warehouses, airports, the ports and sensitive receptors such as schools and day-care centers.

State law allows local air districts including SCAQMD to enforce the California Air Resources Board’s commercial vehicle idling regulation.

Anti-idling inspections are one of many strategies being pursued by SCAQMD to reduce diesel emissions, particularly in environmental justice communities. The agency is now hosting

[a series of public meetings](#) seeking input on initiatives to improve air quality in environmental justice communities under AB 617 and AB 134.

SCAQMD expects to receive \$107.5 million in new funding this year for AB 134, with a majority allocated to projects in environmental justice and low income communities. Projects will include cleaner engines for heavy-duty trucks and buses; construction, agricultural and cargo handling equipment; and marine vessels.

The SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

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