



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PRESS RELEASE

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Air pollution reduction program launched in Eastern Coachella Valley environmental justice communities

South Coast AQMD to hold kick-off meeting Wednesday at Coachella Library

DIAMOND BAR—The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) will host a community meeting in Coachella, Calif., on Wednesday to launch its community-based efforts to address air pollution in the Eastern Coachella Valley. The Eastern Coachella Valley, which includes the communities of Indio, Coachella, Thermal, Oasis, Mecca and North Shore, was recently designated by the California Air Resources Board as part of Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617). AB 617 aims to provide resources that will improve air quality in environmental justice communities.

“Communities in the Eastern Coachella Valley are greatly impacted by air pollution from a variety of sources,” said Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer for South Coast AQMD. “Through these efforts, we look forward to working directly with residents to identify solutions that can have real impacts in their communities.”

Wednesday’s community meeting will provide an overview of the program and additional information on how to participate as a member of the Community Steering Committee (CSC). The CSC’s will include members of the public who live, work, or go to school within the communities and will be able to provide input, recommendations and feedback on the development and implementation of both the Community Air monitoring Plan and the Community Emissions Reduction Plan in Eastern Coachella Valley.

The meeting will be held:

Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Coachella Library
1500 Sixth Street
Coachella, CA 92236

Each plan under AB 617 is unique to the community and will be created in collaboration with the CSC. Air monitoring data will help provide more specific information on air pollution within the community and will be used to support actions to improve air quality. The Community Emissions Reduction Plan will

include specific actions that go beyond existing regional efforts by South Coast AQMD and other agencies, to reduce emissions through regulation, enhanced enforcement, incentives and other efforts.

To read more about South Coast AQMD's AB 617 program, visit www.aqmd.gov/ab617.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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