South Coast AQMD Statement on Governor Newsom’s Order to Phase Out Gasoline-Powered Cars and Reduce Demand for Fossil Fuel in California

Statement by Wayne Nastri, executive officer for the South Coast Air Quality Management District:

“We are pleased to see Governor Newsom’s announcement to move California’s passenger and cargo transportation systems towards a zero-emission future. With the changing climate, hotter temperatures, and more devastating wildfire seasons, it is important to make impactful changes to not only reduce greenhouse gases, but also reduce air pollution in our most impacted communities. On-road and off-road vehicles make up more than 80 percent of the emissions that contribute to smog in Southern California, with the majority of that coming from heavy-duty diesel engines. Moving towards cleaner cars is important but cleaning up the freight sector is crucial to meeting clean air deadlines that are arriving much earlier than 2035 or 2045. We look forward to working with the Governor and the state agencies to help not only implement his vision, but to accelerate the transition to cleaner vehicles in our region in time to meet our clean air goals.”

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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