

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 20, 2021 MEDIA CONTACTS: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

## South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the entire South Coast AQMD jurisdiction

Valid: Sunday, November 21, 2021

This advisory is in effect through early Sunday evening. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect on Sunday due to high winds throughout the entire South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. The National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Red Flag Warnings for the majority of the South Coast Air Basin due to high winds and low humidity arising from a Santa Ana Wind event. These same meteorological conditions can lift dust and soil and lead to poor air quality. For information regarding the NWS warnings, please visit the NWS San Diego (<u>https://www.weather.gov/sgx/</u>) and the NWS Los Angeles (<u>https://www.weather.gov/lox/</u>) websites.

High winds may lead to air quality conditions that are **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or worse at times in portions of the South Coast Air Basin, the Coachella Valley, and eastern Riverside County due to elevated particulate matter (PM10) levels. Air quality can vary hour by hour and by location depending on wind conditions.

**In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust**, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run your air conditioner or an air purifier. If temperatures allow, avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.

Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.



**In areas directly impacted by windblown dust:** Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>www.aqmd.gov/advisory</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap">http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap</a>
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp">www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp</a>
- Air quality forecasts are available at <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast">http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast</a>
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas">http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas</a>.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our <u>award-winning app</u>, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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