

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 14, 2022 MEDIA CONTACT: 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 Portions of Riverside County

Valid: Monday February 14, through Tuesday, February 15, 2022

This advisory is in effect through 7 p.m. Tuesday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from 10PM Monday through 7PM Tuesday due to high winds and dry conditions in east Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, San Gorgonio Pass and the Hemet-San Jacinto Valley. The National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Wind Advisories and High Wind Warnings for these areas due to a cold low pressure system moving through Southern California. For information regarding the NWS advisories, please visit the NWS San Diego (https://www.weather.gov/sgx/) and NWS Phoenix (https://www.weather.gov/psr/) websites.

High winds can lift dust and dry soil and lead to poor air quality conditions that are **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or worse at times. Air quality can vary hour by hour and by location depending on winds and soil 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.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

• **Riverside County**: Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Gorgonio Pass (Area 29), Coachella Valley (Area 30), East Riverside County (Area 31)

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- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories, and forecasts by email, go to http://AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications, and health alerts in your area, download our awardwinning South Coast AQMD app at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp</u>
- Air quality forecasts are available at http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast
- For South Coast AQMD Daily Rule 403.1 High Wind Forecasts for the Coachella Valley call (909) 396-2399 or 1-800-CUT-SMOG.
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas

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 award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>