

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 2, 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 Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

Valid: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 through Thursday, February 3, 2022

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

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from 10 p.m. Tuesday through early Thursday morning due to high winds and dry conditions in parts of the Inland Empire, the Coachella Valley, Eastern Riverside County, and Orange County. The National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Wind Advisories, High Wind Warnings, and Blowing Dust Advisories for these areas due to strong Santa Ana winds. For information regarding the NWS advisories, please visit the NWS San Diego (<a href="https://www.weather.gov/sgx/">https://www.weather.gov/sgx/</a>) and NWS Phoenix (<a href="https://www.weather.gov/psr/">https://www.weather.gov/psr/</a>) 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:

- Orange County: Northern Orange County (Area 16), Central Orange County (Area 17),
  Saddleback Valley (Area 19)
- Riverside County: Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Lake Elsinore (Area 25), Temecula Valley (Area 26), Anza Valley (Area 27), Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Gorgonio Pass (Area 29), Coachella Valley (Area 30), East Riverside County (Area 31)
- San Bernardino County: Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35)



**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: http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <a href="http://AirAlerts.org">http://AirAlerts.org</a>
- 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">http://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 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 <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 <a href="www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>.

###