

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 22, 2023

**MEDIA CONTACT:** 

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Mejia, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 215-5601

press@aqmd.gov

## South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley

## Valid Thursday June 22, 2023 through Saturday June 24, 2023

This advisory is in effect through 6 AM Saturday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from 2 PM on Thursday through 6 AM on Saturday due to strong winds in the Coachella Valley. As of Thursday morning, the National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Wind Advisories in the region. 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 for information regarding the wind advisories.

High winds can lift dust and soil and lead to poor air quality. Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or worse. 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 conditioning or an air purifier, if available, and 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: Coachella Valley (Area 30)



**In areas directly impacted by windblown dust:** Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children should remain indoors.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- Hourly air quality forecasts can be found: via our smartphone app (for iOS and Android) or on our website at <a href="www.aqmd.gov/aqdata">www.aqmd.gov/aqdata</a>
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see www.aqmd.gov/aqdata
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas">http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas</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

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