

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 4, 2023

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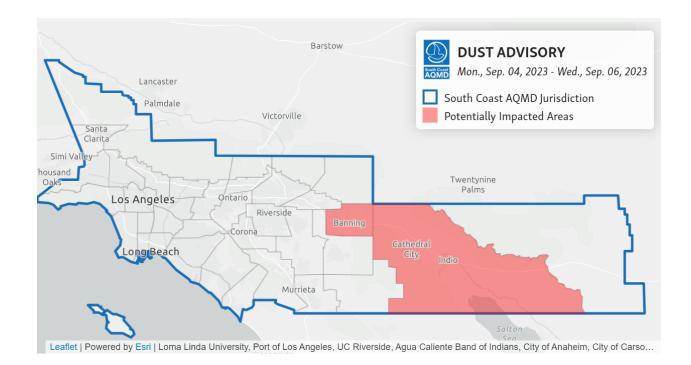
## South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley

Valid Monday 2:00 PM until Wednesday 8:00 AM

## **Current conditions**

- On Sunday, onshore flow was causing high winds in Coachella Valley. As of 6 PM on Sunday, the highest observed wind speed was 25 MPH, with gusts up to 32 MPH
- PM10 concentrations measured by regulatory monitors in Mecca and Palm Springs reached Very Unhealthy and Hazardous AQI levels late Sunday night

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the <u>South Coast AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u>.



## **Forecasted Air Quality Impacts**

- PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from 6 PM Monday through 8 AM Wednesday due to strong winds in the San Gorgonio Pass and Coachella Valley
- 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

## If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do not use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads

For more information, see the **EPA Guide for Particle Pollution** (PDF).

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="www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:X">X</a> (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.