2013 Was a Busy Year for Clean Air

From demonstration projects to program implementations, community workshops and conferences, air sampling to air monitoring – 2013 was quite an eventful year for the South Coast Air Quality Management District and clean air.

**Demonstration Projects**
Among last year’s demonstration projects were one testing zero-emission electric lawn and garden equipment and another developing a mile-long catenary system to propel heavy duty trucks moving freight from the ports. Also unveiled was a demonstration project to test the operation of police cruisers converted to run on compressed natural gas (CNG).

**Clean Air Investments in Southland Communities**
Within the past year, SCAQMD approved funds for 26 pollution reduction projects in the Coachella Valley, the purchase of 20 cleaner locomotives for the Metrolink regional commuter rail service, the installation of hydrogen sulfide monitors near the Salton Sea, and installation of 20 DC (direct current) Fast Chargers across the Southland. SCAQMD, along with Southern California Edison, also dedicated propane-fueled electrical generating units to reduce pollution and cut diesel use on Catalina Island.

Ongoing programs continued in 2013, such as the lawn mower exchange providing low-cost electric mowers in exchange for gas-powered ones, and the Carl Moyer Program, which offers financial incentives to business owners to reduce mobile source emissions. At the same time, measures to further reduce pollution from residential wood-burning and open-burning were approved. The Carl Moyer Program, in its 16th year, was extended by the Legislature through January 2024 through SCAQMD’s partnership with business, agricultural and environmental stakeholders.

**Educational Outreach**
In 2013, SCAQMD also hosted and sponsored events to educate the public on air pollution and to encourage the development and use of clean, advanced technologies. These included a high school conference in Long Beach which provided students from all over the Southland a better understanding of the need to clean our air; a session at the Transportation Research Board’s Washington, D.C. Annual Meeting which highlighted advances in clean transportation; and the 25th Annual Clean Air Awards recognizing businesses, organizations and individuals who have made significant contributions to cleaning the air.

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SCAQMD Presents on Clean Trucks and Locomotives at International Transportation Conference

SCAQMD hosted a policy session at the Transportation Research Board’s (TRB) 93rd Annual Meeting which took place in January in Washington, D.C.

The session, which drew nearly 100 conference attendees, focused on developments in alternative fuel technologies for trucks and locomotives. Transitioning to these less polluting technologies can help regions across the country, including the South Coast Air Basin, meet federal air quality standards and potentially enable fleet operators to achieve substantial fuel and operational cost savings.

Speakers for the session’s two panels included SCAQMD staff as well as representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Federal Railroad Administration, Cummins Inc., Capstone Turbine Corporation, US Hybrid Corporation, Electro-Motive Diesel, Inc., Siemens Industry Inc., and Transpower.

TRB is a division of the National Research Council, a nonprofit institution jointly administered by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. TRB promotes innovation in transportation through research. The conference attracted nearly 12,000 professionals from around the world including policymakers, planners, engineers, administrators, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academia.

SCAQMD is the only air quality agency that is a member of the TRB Executive Committee, which is comprised primarily of local, state and federal agencies. This role has raised SCAQMD’s profile as the nation’s leading air agency engaging on transportation policy and enabled SCAQMD to inform transportation professionals nationwide on the latest technologies available to reduce mobile source emissions.
CAPCOA Launches New Greenhouse Gas Credit Exchange in California

A newly launched greenhouse gas credit program offers a statewide listing of funding opportunities for projects that benefit climate change and air quality.

The secure Greenhouse Gas Reduction Exchange (GHG Rx) web-based platform developed by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) – a non-profit comprised of air pollution control officers representing California’s 35 air districts – features locally generated greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction credits generated from voluntary emission reduction projects. Rigorous CAPCOA-approved protocols and guidance validate the credits and ensure that they are an actual surplus, beyond any required reductions.

The GHG Rx also includes a searchable database of credit projects and a bulletin board for buyers and sellers to exchange information. By listing only credits created in California, local air districts can verify that only high-quality surplus GHG emission reduction credits are included on the GHG Rx.

Credit owners, credit project developers, land developers, businesses, non-profit organizations, individuals as well as lead agencies and other jurisdictions are anticipated GHG Rx users. SCAQMD, a member of CAPCOA, participated with other air districts in the new platform’s development. Visit ghgrx.org to view credits currently listed.

For more information, contact Jill Whynot at jwhynot@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3104.

2014 Lawnmower Exchange Program Registration Begins April 16th

Mark your calendars! Registration for “Mow Down Air Pollution 2014,” SCAQMD’s 12th Annual Lawnmower Exchange Program, begins on April 16. Five different models will be available at four exchange events scheduled in the spring. Residents living within SCAQMD’s jurisdiction may register to turn in a working gas-powered lawn mower and purchase a new cordless rechargeable electric zero-emission mower at a greatly reduced price, ranging from $100 to $250. Since 2003, over 50,000 gasoline-powered lawn mowers have been traded in.

SCAQMD will have a total of 4,000 mowers to exchange this year at the following locations:

| May 3 | Long Beach |
| May 17 | Pasadena |
| June 14 | Riverside |
| June 28 | Anaheim |

Pre-registration is required to participate in the program. To make a reservation, visit the Lawn Mower Exchange web page at aqmd.gov/tao/lawnmower.html or call the toll-free Lawn Mower Exchange line at 1-(888)-425-6247 (Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

For more information, contact Shashi Singeetham at ssingeetham@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3298.

Air Monitors To Measure Pollution from Freeways

In an effort to provide a better understanding of pollution levels near major Southland roadways, SCAQMD plans to install four permanent air monitors near some of the busiest local freeways. Through near-road monitoring, the levels of nitrogen oxide, fine particulates, and carbon monoxide will be measured.

In the past, monitors to determine compliance with federal and state health-based standards were placed away from major thoroughfares because the focus was on determining representative ambient air pollutant levels away from local sources. But recently, federal requirements changed to establish measurements of certain pollutants near roadways. This is an important step as nearly one million Southern California residents live within 300 feet of a freeway and are potentially impacted by these pollutants.

Within the SCAQMD’s four-county jurisdiction, two air monitoring sites will be established per year. Sites were selected based upon several criteria including traffic automobile and diesel truck volume, meteorology, distance from roadway, and others. For 2014, a monitor for the Los Angeles and Orange County area has been installed near the I-5 Freeway in Anaheim, while a monitor for the San Bernardino and Riverside County area will be located by the I-10 Freeway in Ontario. In 2015 two additional sites will be deployed. These two sites will be selected in a similar manner as the previous two sites taking into consideration additional factors such as fleet mix and congestion.

In recent years, numerous research studies have linked air pollution from traffic to a variety of diseases such as asthma, heart disease and lung cancer. Public workshops will continue to discuss site selection and to allow for local community input.

For more information contact Jason Low at jlow@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2269, or Andrea Polidori at apolidori@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3283.
In its continuing effort to improve air quality, SCAQMD is involved in several efforts to commercialize new and cleaner technologies.

The Science and Technology Advancement (STA) department at SCAQMD is a technology demonstration group whose work is centered around reducing emissions from mobile sources. Heavy-duty diesel vehicles specifically are the largest contributor of toxic emissions in the region. STA staff focuses on product development and testing to create products and understand in which market they will thrive.

Collaborative efforts enable the commercialization of new technologies. For instance, SCAQMD works with companies like Coca-Cola and UPS, among others, that put clean vehicles into their fleets. Technology development companies and testers then create products that specifically cater to the needs of each individual company.

According to Jeff Cox, an Air Quality Specialist in STA, several technology projects are currently underway, including developing the technology to power mid-size battery electric delivery trucks that are used to move and deliver goods, and full battery-electric heavy-duty trucks (i.e., tractor-trailers) that move cargo around the Southland and beyond. With a $45 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, STA is in the process of deploying plug-in and electric hybrid trucks operating nationwide.

Another STA project involves the creation of technology that propels a vehicle forward by recovering 70% of its breaking energy. This would be used on vehicles that make frequent stops, such as mail delivery trucks and garbage trucks. STA is also creating an ultra-low NOx natural gas engine for big rig Class 8 trucks, which will make the trucks as clean as an electric vehicle.

Commercialization of these technologies will help clean the air that we breathe.

Former SCAQMD Chair Jon Mikels Dies

Former SCAQMD Board member Jon Mikels passed away in December 2013. As San Bernardino County Supervisor for the second supervisorial district, Mikels represented the County on the SCAQMD Governing Board from February 1991 to November 2001.

During his nearly 12 years at SCAQMD, Mikels served as the Governing Board Chair from December 1994 to August 1997. He was Chair when SCAQMD adopted its emissions market program known as RECLAIM, a then revolutionary approach to combat air pollutants. He was also credited with reducing the size of the agency’s staff and budget.

One of the founders of the city of Rancho Cucamonga, Mikels served as mayor of that community for several years. The SCAQMD Governing Board adjourned its February 2014 meeting in his memory.
A new study conducted by UCLA researchers has found significant differences in air pollution levels across neighborhoods in Los Angeles County.

The study, led by Professor Suzanne Paulson of UCLA’s Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Department and UCLA’s Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, focused on four Los Angeles County neighborhoods: downtown Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Los Angeles and the North Westdale community of Mar Vista near the Santa Monica airport. For the study, researchers drove an electric Toyota RAV4 through residential streets in the four areas during the summers of 2008 and 2011 focusing their measurements on ultrafine particles found in vehicle exhaust. Findings showed that North Westdale had the highest pollution levels of the four neighborhoods, followed by Boyle Heights and downtown Los Angeles, with West Los Angeles having the lowest pollution levels of the four areas. The study, which was published in the December issue of the journal Atmospheric Environment, found that the levels of ultrafine particles in the North Westdale neighborhood were 10 to 20 times higher than levels in the West Los Angeles neighborhood. In comparison, the Boyle Heights neighborhood had levels about three times higher.

Researchers also discovered a drop in ultrafine particle emissions between 2008 and 2011. The most noticeable improvement was in the more affluent West Los Angeles area, which researchers believe may be due to a higher vehicle turnover rate leading to more newer, cleaner vehicles on the road.
SCAQMD Honors MLK Day

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, over 325 people gathered at Hawthorne Memorial Center to celebrate A Day of Service and remember Dr. King’s legacy. The event was co-hosted by SCAQMD along with State Senator Roderick Wright and State Assembymen Steven Bradford and Reginald Jones-Sawyer. Moderating the occasion was Wes Hall of 94.7 The WAVE. Guest speakers included civil rights activist Donzaleigh Abernathy and Emmy Award winning actress Denise Nicholas.

As the daughter of a prominent civil rights leader who was a close friend to King, Abernathy shared her experiences as a young girl growing up in the midst of the civil rights movement. She is the author of the book “Partners to History, Martin Luther King, Ralph David Abernathy and the Civil Rights Movement.”

SCAQMD’s Governing Board Chairman William A. Burke, Ed.D shared his views and experiences as well. “Clean air is a basic human right,” he said. “If Martin Luther King were alive today, I know he would fight for environmental justice for every man, woman, and child.”

SCAQMD to Host Workshops at National Clean Fleet Expo

From May 5-8, transportation industry leaders take over the Long Beach Convention Center for the Alternative Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo 2014, North America’s largest clean fleet expo. More than 175 leading fueling, engine, and technology suppliers will showcase the wide range of clean transportation solutions for all weight classes and alternative fuel types—including electric, hybrid, hydrogen, natural gas, propane autogas, and renewable fuels.

SCAQMD will host a workshop at the ACT Expo on May 7 for public and private fleet managers and local governments. The session, “Alternative Fuel Toolkit for Fleet Managers” is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and will provide best practices on permitting and installation of electric, hydrogen, and CNG/LNG infrastructure. Attendees will receive a free toolkit to help successfully navigate through alternative fuel infrastructure issues.

ACT Expo offers a one-stop shop to determine the best alternative fuel and advanced technology options for their fleet operations. Full conference attendees can explore the sprawling Expo Hall floor, test drive dozens of advanced technology vehicles, see real-world infrastructure and AFV projects at off-site technical tours, attend three days of fleet-focused educational sessions, and network with more than 3,500 sustainable transportation stakeholders.

To register for SCAQMD’s free workshop please forward your name, company, telephone and email address to events@aqmd.gov. Visit actexpo.com for full conference registration or for more information.

For more information contact Lourdes Cordova Martinez at lcmartinez@aqmd.gov or call (909) 396-3214.

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Rule 1130 - Graphic Arts
The proposed amendment will review fountain solutions and other technologies to align requirements with existing rules and U.S. EPA’s Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) recommendations.
For more information, contact Naveen Berry at nberry@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2363.

Rule 123 – Refinery Process Turnaround Procedures
The proposed amendments will, if needed, implement Phase 1 of Control Measure MCS-03 of the 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) by establishing procedures that better quantify emission impacts from start-up, shutdown, or turnaround activities.
For more information, contact Naveen Berry at nberry@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2363.

Rule 102 - Definition of Terms
The proposed amendment would add compounds exempted by U.S. EPA to the definition of Exempt Compounds in the rule. For example, the U.S. EPA recently exempted the compound HFO 1233zd from the federal VOC definition because of its negligible photochemical reactivity level which may be added in Rule 102.
For more information, contact Naveen Berry at nberry@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2363.

Rule 2202 - On-Road Motor Vehicle Mitigation Options
The proposed amendment is to amend sections of Rule 2202 - On-Road Vehicle Mitigation Options and the Rule 2202 Implementation Guidelines that address the use of Emission Reduction Credits (ERC). Staff is proposing to restrict new transfer ERCs into the program and to clarify their use. ERCs that are already in the Rule 2202 program will remain there pursuant to existing guideline language. Restricting the use of ERCs in the program is to prevent potentially negative impacts on their availability to the New Source Review (NSR) program.
For more information, contact Carol Gomez at CGomez@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3264.

Regulation III - Fees
Proposed amendments to Reg. III are intended to align fee revenues to recover SCAQMD program costs.
For more information, contact Naveen Berry at nberry@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2363.

Rule 1168 - Adhesive and Sealant Applications (CTS-02)
Amendments to Rule 1168 will partially implement CTS-02 and reflect improvements in adhesive and sealants technology, as well as remove outdated provisions and include minor clarifications.
For more information, contact Naveen Berry at nberry@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2363.

Proposed Rule 1430 - Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Metal Forging, Shredding, Grinding and Other Metal Processing Operations
Proposed Rule 1430 will establish requirements to control toxic air contaminants from metal forging, shredding, grinding, and other metal processing operations.
For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at snakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.

Proposed Rule 2301 - Control of Emissions from New or Redevelopment Projects (EGM-01)
The proposed rule will implement the 2007 AQMP Control Measure EGM-01 – Emission Reductions from New or Redevelopment Projects. PR 2301 will consider the implementation of a menu of mitigation measures as well as capture the co-benefits of VOC, NOx, and PM 2.5 emission reductions from SB 375 and the Southern California Association of Governments’ 2012 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), which contains the plan for how greenhouse gas emission reduction emission reductions, set by CARB, will be met.
For more information, contact Carol Gomez at CGomez@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3264.

April

That in one year of operation, one older gasoline-powered lawn mower pollutes as much as a new car driven 86,000 miles? You can make a positive impact on air quality by exchanging your gasoline powered-mower for a zero-emission electrical model. Each spring for the past eleven years SCAQMD has offered opportunities for residents to exchange old polluting gasoline powered mowers for clean electric mowers at discounted prices.
To receive information about Lawn Mower Exchange events in 2014, visit aqmd.gov and click on Subscribe to E-mail lists to receive an e-mail when registration opens.
March is Women’s History Month. These are three women who have been instrumental in the fight for clean air in Southern California:

Gladys Meade, a California clean air advocate, has been a prominent figure in the fight against air pollution for over 40 years. During the 1960s, when air pollution was a major topic of discussion, Gladys organized the Clean Air Initiatives with the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County. She entered the battle for clean air as a representative for the American Lung Association of California in Sacramento and Los Angeles, developing the legal and legislative means to meet the goals of the Clean Air Act.

At the same time, she was appointed by Gov. Ronald Reagan as the first woman to serve on the California Air Resources Board. During her term, she was the deciding vote in passing the regulation for the installation of the Catalytic Converter on all California motor vehicles. When Reagan ordered CARB to stop the use of a control device on vehicles without obtaining a legislative vote, she sued in the California Supreme Court and they decided in her favor with a 12-0 vote.

Gladys worked for five years to create a unified air quality management district that merged the four individual county pollution control agencies into one agency overseeing air pollution for the entire air basin. Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to the Governing Board as the public member, and she served in that role from February 1977 until December 1982.

As Vice President of Environmental Health at the American Lung Association, she continued to work for federal, state and industrial standards for improving the nation’s air. Two of her accomplishments were working for legislation that led to the state’s Smog Check program, and the passage of the California Clean Air Act.

Even in retirement, Gladys continued to work for cleaner air and other environmental issues. She has served on the Rose Foundation Advisory Board and established a Meade Clean Air Scholarship Committee, to bring others into the continuing effort to achieve cleaner air. In 2006, she was interviewed by the UCLA Library where her recollections of the struggles to produce clean air for California are archived in their Oral History Collection.

Norma Glover may have moved far away to the East Coast, but SCAQMD is still close to her heart.

Elected to the Newport Beach City council in 1994, she was selected to represent the cities of Orange County on the SCAQMD Governing Board in 1997. At that time, she owned a print shop in Laguna Beach, which was an SCAQMD-regulated business. She found her tenure at SCAQMD to be fascinating, but challenging, due to the time required as a Governing Board Member, City Councilmember, and small business owner.

She “learned on the job,” she said, but felt fortunate to have so many talented staff to call upon. During her time on the Board, Norma served terms as Vice Chair and Chair, and described working with people from many different countries as her “greatest experience.” As Chair, she established the California Natural Gas Vehicle Partnership, where she is now Chairman Emeritus. She was also one of the driving forces in the development and implementation of the fleet rules in California. SCAQMD’s Small Business Assistance program evolved out of her monthly “kitchen cabinet” meetings with small businesses. Norma was an early adopter of electric vehicles – she even had a charging station installed at her home so she could drive a GM EV1 and a Toyota RAV4 EV.

Norma and her husband, Dell, who retired from a successful career in international information technology, moved from Newport Beach to Avon, Connecticut in 2004 to be near their children and grandchildren. Not surprisingly, Norma is actively engaged in that community as well. In 2007, she was appointed by the Connecticut Legislature to the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF), which provided funding for renewable energy projects and energy efficiency programs. CCEF was replaced in 2011 by a program that focuses on investing in clean energy projects, which she refers to as a “Green Bank.”

Norma gets tremendous satisfaction in her current consulting business, which focuses on CNG and LNG, which she first learned about at SCAQMD. Although she misses many things about her time in California, and particularly her time at SCAQMD, she enjoys following SCAQMD’s clean air efforts through the national media.

Nell Soto served three terms in the State Assembly and two terms in the State Senate. But prior to serving in the Legislature, Soto served for 11 years on the Pomona City Council. Upon her death at age 82 in 2009, The Los Angeles Times noted that during that period, “she took the step that would characterize her career when she was appointed to the [South Coast] Air Quality Management District board.” “Few Latino politicians had made a career of championing environmental protection. But Soto had watched Pomona Valley air pollution grow increasingly severe,” said the Times obituary which quoted her son, Tom as saying “She always reminded me, the first real environmentalists were Latinos because they were exposed . . . to all the chemicals while working in the fields.”

Nell Soto was the first Latina to serve on the SCAQMD Governing Board, where she served from September 1994-December 1998. During that period she implemented a local government outreach campaign to provide access and resources to cities on SCAQMD services. She also convened a Leadership Summit in 1995 with over 300 attendees to highlight community input about SCAQMD effects. While in the Legislature, she led the charge to clean up perchlorate contamination of groundwater in the Inland Empire cities of Fontana, Rialto and Colton.
Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 403 – Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin
- Every third Wednesday of the month.
  This three-hour class is held at SCAQMD’s Diamond Bar Headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. Class and registration information are available at aqmd.gov/aqmd/aqmd_training.htm under “Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin (Rule 403).”
  To register call email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov or call toll free 1-866-DUST (3878).

Rule 403 & 403.1 – Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley
- Every third Thursday of the month.
  This course is held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Room 119, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert, CA, 92260. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. Class and registration information are available at aqmd.gov/aqmd/aqmd_training.htm under “Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley (Rule 403 & 403.1)”
  Contact Yvonne Hoo at yhoo@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2387 for additional information and to register.

Rule 404 – Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Compliance Training
- Daily Self-Inspection Class for Gasoline Service Station Owners/Operators - $145.23 per person.
  - March 21, 2014
  - June 20, 2014
- Annual Periodic Inspection Class for Gasoline Service Station Owners/Operators - $158.95 per person.
  - March 28, 2014
  - June 27, 2014
- Tester Orientation Training - $151.10 per person.
  - March 14, 2014
  - June 13, 2014
  Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at SCAQMD’s Diamond Bar Headquarters. Pre-registration is required. No walk-in registrations. Class and registration information is available at aqmd.gov/aqmd/aqmd_training.htm under “Gasoline Transfer & Dispensing (Rule 461)”
  Contact Yvonne Hoo at yhoo@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2387 for additional information and to register.

Rule 4169 – Mandatory Hexavalent Chromium Training Certification
- March 27, 2014
- April 24, 2014
  These half-day classes are held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at SCAQMD’s Diamond Bar Headquarters (Room CC6). Registration fee is $31.38 per person and pre-registration is required.
  Class and registration information are available at aqmd.gov/aqmd/aqmd_training.htm under “Rule 1469 - Hexavalent Chromium Training.”
  Contact Sharon Fujimoto at (909) 396-2183 or by e-mail at sfujimoto@aqmd.gov for additional information and to register.

Rule 2202 - Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) Training
- March 26, 2014, SCAQMD Headquarters, Diamond Bar
- April 10, 2014, Courtyard by Marriott, Culver City
- April 23, 2014, SCAQMD Headquarters, Diamond Bar
- May 21, 2014, SCAQMD Headquarters, Diamond Bar
  Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Enrollment is limited to 18 students. Classes will be filled on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Pre-registration is required. Enrollment fee is $163.97 per person.
  Class information is available at aqmd.gov/aqmd/aqmd_training.htm under “Rule 2202 - Employee Transportation Coordinator Training.”
  To register, call (909) 396-2777 or e-mail etctraining@aqmd.gov.