



SCAQMD

*Cleaning
the air
that we
breathe...*

ADVISOR

Volume 24 • Number 4 • July/August 2017

SCAQMD Approves \$8 Million to Fund 33 New Electric School Buses



MotivBus



E-Lion Bus



GreenPower Bus

SCAQMD's Governing Board awarded up to \$8.8 million to purchase 33 zero-emission, battery-operated electric school buses and the infrastructure to charge the buses' batteries to reduce exposure of schoolchildren to harmful diesel soot and to reduce air pollution in the Southland. The funding, approved by the Governing Board at its June 2017 meeting, will help 16 public school districts and two charter schools transport their students on the new cleaner buses.

Each of the following districts will receive a \$536,000 grant that includes \$496,000 to purchase two electric buses and \$40,000 for charging infrastructure:

- Anaheim Elementary School District
- Anaheim Union High School District
- Baldwin Park Unified School District
- Bassett Unified School District (La Puente)
- Bellflower Unified School District
- Coachella Valley Unified School District (Thermal)
- Fontana Unified School District
- Jurupa Unified School District (Jurupa Valley)
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Lynwood Unified School District
- Magnolia School District (Anaheim)
- Montebello Unified School District
- Mountain View School District (El Monte)
- Rialto Unified School District
- Savanna School District (Anaheim)

In addition, Covina Valley Unified School District, Today's Fresh Start Charter School in Inglewood, and Los Angeles Leadership Primary Academy will receive a \$268,000 grant that includes \$248,000 to purchase one electric bus and \$20,000 for charging infrastructure.

SCAQMD is providing the school bus and infrastructure funds through the Carl Moyer Program with additional funds coming from the California Air Resources Board's Hybrid and Zero Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) to help offset the cost of each bus. The school districts and charter schools receiving grants are in areas with higher levels of PM2.5 exposure and/or air toxics exposure.

For more information on the Carl Moyer program, please visit: [http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/carl-moyer-memorial-air-quality-standards-attainment-\(carl-moyer\)-program](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/carl-moyer-memorial-air-quality-standards-attainment-(carl-moyer)-program).

Early Start to 2017 Smog Season

The 2017 Smog Season is off to an early start, with unhealthful amounts of ground-level air pollution known as ozone reported on 49 days by June 20. Ozone is not emitted directly, but forms in the atmosphere by reactions of hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions in the presence of sunlight.

In the South Coast Air Basin, hydrocarbons and NOx are emitted primarily from motor vehicles, although other industrial and consumer products as well as stationary sources such as refineries, factories and power plants also contribute a smaller amount. Over the course of many years, the concerted efforts of SCAQMD, state and federal regulators and others have led to a significant decline in emissions from vehicles and other sources in the region.

However, ozone levels are also affected by the sunny weather in Southern California with on-shore ocean winds that blow air pollution against the mountains. This effect coupled with a phenomenon known as an inversion layer all lead to more smog or ozone in our region. (See article below for details on the inversion layer).

When ozone levels reach unhealthful levels, it is recommended that residents avoid strenuous outdoor activities, especially in the mid-afternoon through early evening peak hours. Individuals with existing respiratory conditions, such as asthma, should check with their doctor for additional instructions or medications.

Residents can sign up for SCAQMD air quality forecasts and real-time air quality alerts at AirAlerts.org.

Ask the Advisor: What is the Inversion Layer?

Southern California has nice weather and lots of sunshine, but it also has some of the worst air pollution in the nation. Due to the local topography, air pollution in the South Coast Air Basin tends to stagnate within the basin, unless strong winds are present to disperse it past the inland mountain ranges. This is compounded by what is known as an inversion layer that acts like a “lid.” This “lid” occurs when the layers of air in our atmosphere are inverted and warm with height, preventing cooler air from rising through the warmer layer of air above. As pollutants from various sources, including power plants, refineries, dry cleaners, and motor vehicles are released into the air, this inversion layer traps the pollutants near the ground, leading to poor air quality in the Southland.

For more information, contact Payam Pakbin at (909) 396-2122 or ppakbin@aqmd.gov.

Networking Together to Make Sense of Sensors

SCAQMD, in partnership with the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), will host “Making Sense of Sensors,” a symposium on air quality sensors on Sept. 27-28, 2017 at SCAQMD Headquarters in Diamond Bar. This event will gather experts from government, academia, industry, environmental and research organizations, to learn and to share the latest information on air quality sensors. A tour of the SCAQMD Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center also will be available. Exhibitor and registration information will be posted in mid-July on the following websites: aqmd.gov, aqmd.gov/aq-spec and capcoa.org.

South Coast Air Quality Management District Announces Sweeping Air Toxics Action Plan

At its April Governing Board meeting, SCAQMD officials announced a far-reaching initiative to expand its ongoing regulation of toxic air pollution associated with hundreds of metal processing facilities in the Southland. Any facilities found to be emitting high levels of toxic metals will be required to reduce them quickly.

“SCAQMD has many existing rules and programs in place to protect the public from harmful toxic emissions,” said SCAQMD Executive Office Wayne Nastri. “However our recent discovery of high emissions of hexavalent chromium from two facilities in Paramount has led us to develop an intensive air toxics initiative. Our goal is to eliminate or minimize the release of hexavalent chromium into the environment associated with metal-processing facilities.”

Through the initiative, SCAQMD will systematically identify and prioritize high-risk facilities, then use the latest air monitoring technology to verify specific sources causing high emissions of toxic metal contaminants such as hexavalent chromium, lead, arsenic, cadmium and nickel. If high-risk facilities are identified, SCAQMD will take actions to ensure these facilities reduce their emissions to a level that does not pose an immediate threat to public health.

As it has done in Paramount, SCAQMD will engage and communicate regularly about its work with residents, community groups, local governments and their elected officials, partner regulatory agencies, affected facilities and industry groups. SCAQMD also will seek to leverage the regulatory authorities of other agencies to assist in swiftly curtailing emissions from high-emitting facilities.



SCAQMD Takes its Message to Washington

In May, a group of six Governing Board Members, accompanied by several staff, traveled to Washington, DC to meet with policymakers and to advocate for SCAQMD’s federal priorities.

The SCAQMD delegation split up into three teams to meet with senior level officials at the White House, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Energy. They also met with ten Members of Congress, staff for a dozen others, and senior staff from four major House and Senate Committees.

The SCAQMD delegation urged policymakers to continue funding several EPA programs that provide grants for diesel replacement projects, air monitoring, and other critical SCAQMD programs. The group also pressed for the President’s proposed Infrastructure bill to consider air pollution impacts, and provide a portion of funds for infrastructure projects that improve air quality and to promote advanced clean technologies and fuels. The SCAQMD teams received positive reactions from most of the offices visited.

The trip also included a briefing for Congressional staffers from states that have opted to follow the California tailpipe emission standards, which are more stringent than federal rules. Staffers from these so-called Section 177 states were given an overview of this issue (known as the California waiver), and the implications if California’s authority to establish its own standards is curtailed.



National Drive Electric Week Event

Join SCAQMD on Saturday, September 9th to celebrate National Drive Electric Week. The EV Association of Southern California will host the event being held at SCAQMD Headquarters at 21865 Copley Drive in Diamond Bar from Noon to 4 pm.

Community events will be held across the country throughout the week of September 9-17 to heighten awareness about the availability and benefits of driving all-electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. Last year during National Drive Electric Week 235 events were held in 212 cities, 46 states, and seven countries.

Visit www.driveelectricweek.org for more information or contact the Electric Vehicle Association of Southern California's coordinator at (562) 882-3694.

SCAQMD Promotes Clean Air at Local Earth Day Events

Throughout Los Angeles, the Inland Empire and Orange County, SCAQMD staff fanned out across the South Coast region to promote clean air at local Earth Day events in April.

SCAQMD staff manned information booths at events, conducted presentations at schools and even brought clean air cars for displays to some locations.

If you are interested in SCAQMD staff participating in an event or providing a presentation, please contact the Public Advisor at 909-396-2432 or via email at PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov.



Commercial Leaf Blower Exchange Program Registration Opens on July 11

Now in its 10th program year, SCAQMD's annual Leaf Blower Exchange Program helps reduce the number of noisy, high-polluting gasoline backpack leaf blowers in the region.

This program allows commercial landscapers and gardeners operating within the four-county South Coast Air Basin to exchange a gasoline backpack leaf blower for a new zero or low-emission/low-noise leaf blower from STIHL or DeWalt available at a discounted price. Participation is also open to city and county agencies, school districts and colleges within the SCAQMD jurisdiction.

Since the program's inception, SCAQMD has replaced over 13,000 old leaf blowers, reducing 88,282 pounds of hydrocarbon and NOx emissions per year. All old leaf blowers retired through this program are environmentally scrapped and recycled.

You must register to participate in the leaf blower program. Registration for the 2017 Commercial Leaf Blower Exchange Program opens on Tuesday, July 11.

For more information on the 2017 Commercial Leaf Blower Exchange Program, visit aqmd.gov/home/programs/community and go to the Lawn Equipment page, call 888-425-6247 Tuesday-Friday, or email leafblower@aqmd.gov. To receive email updates on this program, visit aqmd.gov/sign-up and select the Leaf Blower newsletter list.



Go the Extra Mile for Clean Air – Bike-to-Work

May was both Bike Month and Clean Air Month, so it was inevitable that SCAQMD would encourage its employees to ride a bike to work to help improve air quality. On May 17th, 27 cyclists chose to go the extra mile for clean air by participating in SCAQMD's 2017 Bike-to-Work Day.

Some riders peddled from as far as Rancho Cucamonga, while others opted for a combination of driving their vehicles to a meeting point then riding to work.

"We don't always get the chance to be active at

work, get the exercise we need, or have an active lifestyle," said Azar Dabiri, a senior air quality engineer, and 16-year employee who rode in with a group of cyclists from a nearby meeting point in Diamond Bar.

According to Air Quality Specialist and Ride Share/Bike to Work Day Coordinator Eyvonne Drummonds, riders attended safety workshops led by the San Gabriel Valley Bike Coalition and the California Highway Patrol, as well as pre-ride warm-up meetings to ensure all participants were prepared for the bike commute to work.



2017 Lawnmower Rebate Program

SCAQMD's Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program has been well received by the mowing public. Now available year-round, the lawnmower rebate program enables consumers to purchase new electric lawn mowers and receive up to \$250 if they turn in their old gasoline-powered mower to an approved dismantler.

"Residents can save money when they purchase an air pollution-free electric lawn mower," said SCAQMD Chairman William A. Burke, Ed.D. "This new program allows residents to shop for an electric lawn mower when and where it's convenient for them."

Available to residents within SCAQMD's four-county jurisdiction, the program provides participants who purchase a new battery-operated electric lawn mower (either online or from a local retailer or dealer) a rebate based on the purchase price of their new mower. Participants will receive the rebate once they surrender their old gasoline lawn mower to an approved dismantler for permanent destruction and complete the application process.

The program is being implemented on a first-come, first-served basis. In the first six weeks of this year's program over 100 rebate checks were processed for participants residing in over 50 cities/communities within the four-county South Coast region. SCAQMD hopes to achieve 1,000 rebates over the program's first year.

For more information on the 2017 Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program, visit aqmd.gov/home/programs/community and scroll down to the Lawn Equipment page; call 888-425-6247 Tuesday-Friday 8am-5pm or email leafblower@aqmd.gov.



Rule Update

The following proposed amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearings at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the SCAQMD website at aqmd.gov/home/library/meeting-agendas-minutes and check the Rules and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500.

Copies of SCAQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the website at aqmd.gov/home/regulations or obtained from SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039.

July

Rule 1118 – Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares

The proposed amendments would address emissions from refinery flaring by imposing new prohibitions, requiring engineering analysis of potential additional controls, increasing public notification, and other updates.

For more information, contact Ian MacMillan at imacmillan@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3244.

Rule 1147 – NOx Reductions from Miscellaneous Sources

Proposed Amended Rule 1147 will modify emission limits for certain source categories based on findings from the Rule 1147 Technology Assessment.

For more information, contact Tracy Goss at TGoss@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3106.

Rule 1466 – Toxic Air Contaminant Emissions from Decontamination of Soil

Proposed Rule 1466 will establish requirements to control toxic particulate emissions from activities involving storing, handling and transporting soils during decontamination activities.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at SNakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.

September

Rule 1401 – New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants

Amendments will update requirements for gas stations and paint booths, include additional air toxics, and will consider additional administrative changes.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at SNakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.

October

Rule 1168 – Adhesive and Sealant Applications (CTS-02) Contaminants

Amendments to Rule 1168 will partially implement CTS-02 and reflect improvements in adhesive and sealant technology, as well as remove outdated provisions and include minor clarifications.

For more information, contact Michael Krause at MKrause@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2706.

Regulation IX – Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources Regulation X – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants

Amendments to Regulations IX and X are periodically made to incorporate by reference new or amended federal performance standards that have been enacted by U.S. EPA for stationary sources. Regulations IX and X provide stationary sources with a single point of reference for determining which federal and local requirements apply to their specific operations.

For more information, contact Carol Gomez at CGomez@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3264.

Rule 1168 – Adhesive and Sealant Applications (CTS-02)

Amendments to Rule 1168 will partially implement CTS-02 and reflect improvements in adhesive and sealant technology, as well as remove outdated provisions and include minor clarifications.

For more information, contact Michael Krause at MKrause@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-2706.

November

Rule 1407 & Rule 1407.1 – Control of Emissions of Arsenic, Cadmium and Nickel from Non-Ferrous Metal Operations

Proposed Rule 1407 will establish additional requirements to minimize air toxics from metal operations. Staff is analyzing sources subject to Rule 1407 and may develop a separate Rule 1407.1 for the largest sources subject to Rule 1407.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at SNakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.

Rule 1148.3 – Requirements for Underground Gas Storage

Proposed Rule 1148.3 will establish requirements to address public nuisance and VOC emissions from underground natural gas storage facilities.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at SNakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Symposium Commemorates Center for RNG Ribbon-Cutting

To commemorate the opening of the new University of California, Riverside's Center for Renewable Natural Gas, SCAQMD cosponsored a symposium on renewable natural gas (RNG) on May 17, 2017.

The new center will study high-yield RNG production, storing renewable energy with power-to-gas technology, technologies that can increase RNG use in heavy-duty trucking and other transportation, market and policy issues, and potential sites for RNG production projects locally and throughout California.

The symposium, entitled "RNG Adoption from Lab to Market-Advancing Technological Innovation and Efficiency Gains" included presentations on decarbonizing natural gas in California, mitigating short-lived climate pollutants, and the nexus between RNG and renewable hydrogen. The event included four panel discussions that touched upon the production of RNG and how state policy is addressing RNG.

Fred Minassian, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer of Science and Technology Advancement, participated in the panel discussion on RNG Policy in California. Featured speakers at this event included representatives from the California Energy Commission, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, SoCalGas, British Petroleum's Global Environmental Products division, private RNG producers and suppliers, and associations advocating for the production and use of RNG.

For more information, visit UCR's website at cert.ucr.edu/research/rng/

CLEAN AIR People



Clean Air People: SCAQMD's Meteorology & AQ Evaluation Unit

Kevin Durkee, Senior Meteorologist, and his team of Air Quality Specialists, Melissa Sheffer, Shoreh Cohanim, Mark Bassett, and Payam Pakbin are SCAQMD's Meteorology & AQ Evaluation Unit. They are responsible for providing air quality forecasts and alerts, and the analysis and reporting of SCAQMD's atmospheric measurement data.

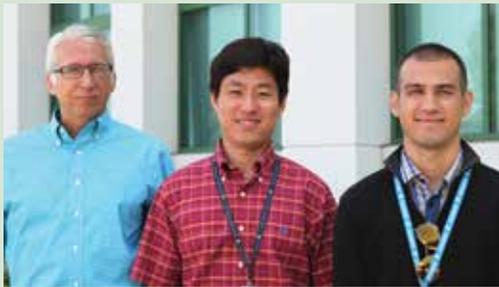
According to Kevin, in the "old days," a staff of meteorologists were on duty every day to monitor the air quality and to prepare alerts to be sent to schools and industry through a radio system. Today, the team's workload still involves forecasting for the South Coast Air Basin, Coachella Valley, Mojave Desert, and Antelope Valley, which focus on ambient air pollutant levels, windblown dust, agricultural

and prescribed fire use, and wintertime residential wood burning (the Check Before You Burn Program). Additionally, they issue advisories for wildfire smoke and strong winds, and for other types of air quality events such as odors.

These days, the group primarily focuses on applying their extensive experience and expertise to provide planning, measurement and analytical support for many SCAQMD efforts, such as the upcoming 2018 Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES-V), Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) preparation, rule development and community-scale air pollution concerns.

To receive daily air quality alerts, sign up for the automated system available at AirAlerts.org.

Out-of-Staters Move to Join SCAQMD Work Force



There are a number of new faces at SCAQMD who have moved from other states to work at the nation's premier local clean air agency. Among them, two new air quality specialists have started in the Technology Advancement Office, and a new air quality inspector have joined the Compliance and Enforcement Office from out of state.

Joseph Lopat and Seungbum Ha are both new Air Quality Specialists. Lopat joined SCAQMD in October 2016 after moving from Indiana. A graduate of Purdue University with a degree in mechanical engineering, Lopat spent most of his childhood summers in the 1970s in California, so he remembers "the burning eyes and sinus issues from the air here." Lopat worked for truck engine manufacturer Cummins in its heavy-duty engine business unit. His

most recent work at SCAQMD has been with natural gas engines in trucks and trains.

Additionally, Ha joined SCAQMD from Chicago, Illinois, where he was a researcher at Argonne International Laboratory. His new position involves retrofitting diesel trucks to electric or fuel cell powered engines.

Peter Homsey joined SCAQMD in May 2017 as an Air Quality Inspector I. He is one of 20 new inspectors who have joined the Compliance and Enforcement Office. Homsey comes to SCAQMD from New York where he attended CUNY Hunter College with a major in Environmental Studies.

Lopat, Ha and Homsey are part of a recent period of increased staffing at SCAQMD. From July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, SCAQMD has brought on 80 new employees, filling positions in every department. In addition, as part of the succession planning program, approximately 90 people have been promoted into new roles and responsibilities. SCAQMD continuously reviews, and adapts if necessary, its organizational structure to address the needs of the agency and its mission.



29th

Annual Clean Air Awards
Friday, October 6, 2017
at 11:30 a.m.
The Millennium Biltmore Hotel
506 S. Grand Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Clean Air Awards to be Held October 6th in Los Angeles

Please join the South Coast Air Quality Management District for the 29th Annual Clean Air Awards to honor those who have made outstanding clean air contributions to the health of our communities and the economy. This will be a memorable event with community

leaders, special guests, and celebration of past and present clean air accomplishments with a glimpse into our clean air future...

For questions or additional information, call (909) 396-2432, or email CleanAirAwards@aqmd.gov.



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
aqmd.gov
@SouthCoastAQMD

Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
City of Industry, CA
Permit No. 4472

Briefly...

Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 403 – Dust Control in the South Coast Air Basin Training

- Every third Wednesday of the month: January through November.

This class is held at SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee. Pre-registration is required and walk-in registrations are not allowed.

Visit aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-403-403-1-fugitive-dust (and click on "south coast" near the top of the page) for class and registration information. To register, e-mail dustcontrol@aqmd.gov or call toll-free 1-866-861-3878.

Rule 403 & 403.1 – Dust Control in the Coachella Valley Training

- Every third Thursday of the month: January through November.

This course is held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Room 115, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert, CA, 92260. There is no fee. Pre-registration is required and walk-in registrations are not allowed.

Visit aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-403-403-1-fugitive-dust (and click on "coachella valley" near the top of the page) for class and registration information. To register, email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov or call toll-free 1-866-861-3787.

Rule 461 – Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Training?

Daily Maintenance Inspection Class

- October 20, 2017

The class fee is \$153.21 per person. (fee increase after July 1, 2017)

Vapor Recovery System Tester Orientation Class

- August 18, 2017
- October 27, 2017

The class fee is \$159.41 per person. (fee increase after July 1, 2017)

Periodic Compliance Inspection Class

- October 13, 2017

The class fee is \$167.68 per person. (fee increase after July 1, 2017)

Classes meet at SCAQMD headquarters in Room CC6 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Check-in time is 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required and walk-in registrations are not allowed.

Visit aqmd.gov/home/regulations/compliance/gasoline-dispensing2/rule-461-classes for class and registration information. Contact Michele Martinez at (909) 396-3058 or MMartinez1@aqmd.gov for more information.

Rule 1403 – Asbestos Demolition and Renovation Compliance Training

- August 16, 2017
- October 18, 2017
- December 13, 2017

Classes are held at SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters (Room CC6) from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$83.39 per person. Pre-registration is required and walk-in registrations are not allowed.

Visit aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-1403-asbestos-demolition for class and registration information. Contact Sharon Fujimoto via email at SFujimoto@aqmd.gov or call (909) 396-2183 for more information and to register.

SCAQMD ADVISOR

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Legislative & Public Affairs Office. SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. SCAQMD *does not endorse nor warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.*

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the print edition, visit the SCAQMD publications web page at aqmd.gov/home/library/public-information/publications, or email subscriptions@aqmd.gov.

Visit SCAQMD's Web site at aqmd.gov for news updates and other information.

Be a Green Advisor Subscriber

The SCAQMD Advisor is also available online at aqmd.gov/home/library/public-information/publications.

Help save paper and resources by joining the growing number of SCAQMD Advisor subscribers who have switched from the print edition to the online version. To subscribe, send an email to advisornewsletter@aqmd.gov with 'Green Advisor' as the subject line.