

Cleaning the air  
that we breathe...



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## 8-Hour Ozone Standard Begins First Phase

**O**n April 15, 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released the final rule covering the first phase of implementation for the new federal 8-hour ozone standard, adopted in 1997. The new rule will revoke (in June 2005) the current 1-hour standard –and its year 2010 attainment deadline for the South Coast District –and set an attainment deadline of 2021 for the 8-hour standard.

The South Coast will also receive the revised designation of “Severe-17” non-attainment for ozone, referring to the 17 years allowed for compliance, beginning in 2004.

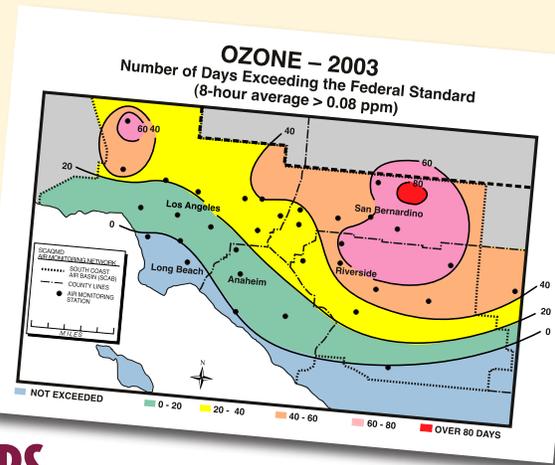
Since the draft implementation policy was proposed in the summer of 2003, AQMD had submitted three formal letters of comment and concern that insufficient safeguards were contained in the rule language to ensure expeditious progress toward clean air.

AQMD staff is now assessing the 300+ page implementation document, but continues to have serious concerns that the extended deadlines, although for more stringent requirements, will diminish the shared urgency to develop and implement innovative emission control technologies.

The revised standard is intended to be more health-protective. Implementation was delayed by years of litigation challenging the adoption.

The current federal ozone standard, adopted in 1979, is set at 0.12 ppm (parts per million parts of air), measured over one hour. The revised ozone standard will become 0.08 ppm, measured over an eight-hour period.

For more information, contact Elaine Chang at (909) 396-3186.



## NEW RULE ADDRESSES AIR TOXICS FROM DIESEL BACK-UP GENERATORS

**T**he Governing Board at its April 2, 2004 meeting adopted a measure to reduce toxic emissions from stationary diesel-fueled engines, including stricter requirements for equipment on or near schools.

“The Board’s action responds to public testimony asking for enhanced protection of school children, by requiring stricter air pollution controls on facilities and equipment located on or near schools,” said Barry Wallerstein, AQMD executive officer.

Rule 1470 – Requirements for Stationary Diesel-Fueled Internal Combustion and Other Compression Ignition Engines, adopts a state-level Air Toxics Control Measure (ATCM) and includes more stringent provisions for engines located on or within 100 meters of schools.

The adoption hearing noted that the AQMD has \$250,000 in state funding available to assist schools in retrofitting their own existing emergency diesel engines with particulate filters.

There are approximately 7,800 stationary diesel-fueled engines operating in the South Coast Air Basin. About 97 percent of the engines are used as emergency standby engines

with several hundred of the engines located near schools.

Stationary diesel-fueled engines are used as either primary engines or emergency power engines. Primary engines are used on a regular basis to power equipment ranging from compressors to rock crushers to agricultural irrigation equipment. Standby engines are largely used to provide emergency power for systems critical to human life (e.g., hospital medical support systems). Mandatory, unpredictable emergency use will not be affected by the new measure.

Beginning January 1, 2006, all stationary engines will be required to use cleaner fuels, such as cleaner diesel or alternative fuels; limit hours of operation; and implement recordkeeping and reporting measures. Some engines will be required to phase in the use of particulate filters over a four-year period, beginning in 2006.

Diesel particulate has the potential to cause cancer in humans and can aggravate chronic respiratory problems such as asthma. The AQMD’s Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES II), completed in 2000, showed that approximately 70 percent of the cancer risk from air toxics in the South Coast Air Basin is due to diesel particulate.

One 350-horsepower diesel-fueled stationary engine operating 100 hours can produce 40 pounds of particulate emissions. The addition of a particulate filter can cut 39 pounds of those toxic emissions.

For more information, contact Jill Whynot, at (909) 396-3104.



# AQMD ADOPTS RULE TO REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION FACILITIES

**I**n March, the AQMD Governing Board adopted Rule 1148.1 to reduce ozone-forming emissions from oil and gas production facilities through improved maintenance requirements and a prohibition on the venting of oil field gas.

"The action will further reduce smog-forming emissions from thousands of oil and gas wells in the Southland," said Barry Wallerstein, AQMD's executive officer. "In addition, as a result of community concerns regarding oil wells in Southern California, this measure will prohibit all oil and gas operations from venting natural gas," he said. The rule will affect more than 250 oil and gas facilities in the region that operate more than 3,500 oil wells where petroleum is produced, processed and stored.

Under Rule 1148.1, facilities will be required to frequently inspect their well cellars and improve maintenance by removing accumulated liquid when a specified level is reached. Beginning January 1, 2006, the rule prohibits the venting of gas to the atmosphere and instead requires it be treated for sale, reinjected back into the ground for future oil extraction activities or used for fuel. When used for fuel, facilities must use equipment that can demonstrate 95% or greater volatile organic compound vapor removal efficiency. Additional control requirements are included for gas operations located near "sensitive receptors" such as schools, day care centers and hospitals. The rule will reduce total VOC emissions by 1.76 tons per day and is similar to rules already adopted by air districts in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575.

Rule 1148.1 was developed to implement the AQMD's 2003 Air Quality Management Plan control measure for fugitive VOC emissions and meets AQMD's obligation under the settlement agreement reached with environmental groups in 1999.

## FUGITIVE DUST RULES STRENGTHENED

**T**he South Coast air district includes two air basins that exceed standards for PM<sub>10</sub>: the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley portion of the Salton Sea Air Basin.

Studies indicate that approximately one-third of the South Coast Air Basin's ambient PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, and over ninety percent of Coachella Valley's PM<sub>10</sub> levels, are a result of soil dust entrainment, commonly referred to as fugitive dust.

At its April 2 meeting, the Governing Board amended Rule 403 - Fugitive Dust; Rule 1186 - PM<sub>10</sub> Emission Reduction from Paved and Unpaved Roads and Livestock Operations; and Rule 403.1 - Supplemental Fugitive Dust Control Requirements for Coachella Valley Sources.

The amendments will reduce 1.7 tons per day of PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from construction, road and agricultural sources.

The amended rules increase the stringency of current Best Available Control Measures (BACM) for many dust sources, including construction and related operations, roadways, Coachella Valley farming, and weed abatement activities. The proposed amendments were reviewed at two public workshops, one at AQMD offices in Diamond Bar and one in Palm Desert.

Staff also met with local officials and residents, as well as with affected industries and associations (e.g., Building Industry Association, Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition, Southern California Rock Products Association, the L.A. County Sanitation Districts, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California).

For more information, contact Julia Lester at (909) 396-3162.

## ADDENDUM APPROVED FOR AIR TOXICS CONTROL PLAN

**A** 2004 Addendum to AQMD's 2000 Air Toxics Control Plan (ATCP) was approved by the Governing Board at its April 2 meeting. In the four-year interim, significant progress has been made in reducing air toxics and related public exposure.

Based on mass emissions, air toxics have been reduced approximately 22 percent between the base year of 1997/1998 and 2002 due to adopted local, state, and federal regulations. A total of 13 air toxic control strategies by AQMD and 10 statewide measures have been adopted since the 2000 ATCP.

The Addendum provides a status of the various mobile and stationary source strategies in the original ATCP and revises projections based on actions accomplished to date.

The Addendum also provides new inventory information to reflect updated information contained in the 2003 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), and summarizes measures identified in the AQMP as well as the Cumulative Impacts Reduction Strategy approved in September 2003. The AQMP is a planning document primarily for criteria pollutants; implementation of its strategies will also reduce toxics.

The ATCP will again be revised following the completion of the Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES III), which recently began with air sampling and will continue through early 2005.

The original ATCP represented an unprecedented approach by the AQMD to develop a comprehensive plan to further reduce air toxics, and was not required by state or federal law. Based on air monitoring and modeling findings from the MATES II study, the ATCP identified key toxic compounds and cancer risk levels in the Basin. The plan analyzed existing and ongoing programs and laid plans for accelerating reductions based on technically and economically feasible strategies.

Although mobile source emissions continue to be the predominant contributors (over 90 percent) to regional toxicity levels, stationary sources can contribute to unique, localized neighborhood impacts of significance to the public.

Development of the Addendum included three public consultation meetings to gather suggestions and feedback from the public.

For more information, contact Elaine Chang at (909) 396-3186.

# Lawn Mower Exchanges Mow Down Air Pollution

**C**ontinuing the successful lawn mower exchange program held last summer, AQMD once again hosted two sell-out lawn mower buy-back programs, and has two more scheduled under a program called "Mow Down Air Pollution 2004". Under this year's program, local residents have the opportunity to purchase a \$399 24-volt, cordless rechargeable electric lawn mower for \$100 in exchange for a working, gas-powered mower. At press time, the first two events were scheduled to be held at the California Speedway in Fontana on May 8th and at Diamond Stadium in Lake Elsinore on May 15th. Mowers were available on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 1,000 people at each location. All mowers turned in are slated for scrapping to prevent them from being returned to service. The expected annual VOC emissions saved from removing 4,000 gas-powered mowers from operation is 19.4 tons.

The remaining events will be held at Verizon Wireless Amphitheater & Wild Rivers Water Park, 808 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine on May 22 and the final event will be at Hollywood Park, 1050 S. Prairie Ave., Inglewood on June 12.

For more information, call the Lawn Mower Exchange Hotline at 888-425-6247 or, visit [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov).



## AQMD LAUNCHES IMPROVED WEBSITE

**O**n March 17, 2004, AQMD's revamped web site went live to the public. Visitors to [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov) will now find a colorful new look and improved navigation to serve our customers – the regulated businesses and members of our communities. The improvements are intended to ease the finding of forms and information. Every page displays five main navigation categories and alternate language links to certain documents that are also available in Spanish, Chinese and Korean. The AQMD logo in the upper left corner is a link back to the home page.

Information categories include:

- INSIDE AQMD
- BUSINESS
- CONTACT US
- COMMUNITY
- EDUCATION

Whether you have visited our site many times before, or are new to it, we invite you to log on and see the new improvements. E-mail your ideas, suggestions and feedback on the site to [webeditor@aqmd.gov](mailto:webeditor@aqmd.gov).

For more information, contact Chery Cooper at [ccooper@aqmd.gov](mailto:ccooper@aqmd.gov).



## AQMD Joins Supreme Court Case on Mexican Trucks

The AQMD, in conjunction with the organization Public Citizen, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the California Trucking Association, and nine states, filed papers in March with the U.S. Supreme Court to require federal authorities to assess and offset the environmental impacts of Mexican-registered trucks operating in the U.S.

The federal government contends that under the North American Free Trade Agreement, it is obligated to permit as many as 34,000 such trucks. Oral arguments were held in the Supreme Court on April 21.

In 2002, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued three sets of rules permitting entry of trucks registered in Mexico into this country. Under the National

Environmental Policy Act, FMCSA was required to complete an environmental review as well as a conformity analysis to the Clean Air Act prior to the adoption of the regulations.

In a legal brief to the U.S. Supreme Court, the AQMD contends that instead of completing a thorough analysis, the FMCSA presented a cursory environmental assessment for two of the regulations and engaged in no analysis for the third.

The 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that the FMCSA must complete a full-scale environmental study that addresses pollution in border regions. In the meantime, the Justice Department has asked the Supreme Court to overturn the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court ruling.

Under the Clean Air Act, any emissions increase in excess of 55 pounds

per day of oxides of nitrogen, or NO<sub>x</sub>, is "significant" for the basin. According to the brief, using the emissions rate used by FMCSA, it would take less than eight additional trucks traveling the length of the basin to exceed the NO<sub>x</sub> threshold. An independent study found that the actual make-up of the Mexican fleet has an emissions rate that is significantly higher than that used by FMCSA.

The AQMD's perspective, as outlined in the brief, is that "a handful of additional trucks significantly impacts air quality, possibly delaying attainment of healthful standards for the area and seriously impacting the health of our residents."

For more information, contact Frances Keeler at (909) 396-2304.

# Voluntary Air Quality Element Circulates for Local Feedback

**A**s part of its Environmental Justice (EJ) program, the AQMD has partnered with the Orange County and Western Riverside Councils of Governments to develop a Model Air Quality Element (MAQE) that cities and counties may consider in the adoption or amendment of their general plans.

In early spring, AQMD staff held a series of public workshops to present the draft document and discuss its possible application with city and county planners, as well as realtors, members of the Building Industry Association of Southern California and other key stakeholders. AQMD emphasizes that the MAQE is a voluntary resource tool local authorities can use to incorporate an air quality element into their plans or to integrate air-related strategies in other elements of their general plans, such as Land Use. AQMD has no plans to require inclusion of such an element in local general plans.

Local authorities who decide to use the draft MAQE will have the freedom to tailor it to fit their unique circumstances, needs and planning goals. A city or county general plan is the

foundation for local planning and development, and can be an important tool for implementing policies and programs beneficial to air quality.

Approximately 47 Southland cities and counties have already adopted an air quality element of some kind. AQMD hopes its development of this user-friendly reference, with its wide range of options to reduce stationary and mobile source emissions, will encourage more local governments to address air quality issues in this manner.

Goals of the voluntary draft MAQE include:

- Reduce air pollutant impacts on sensitive receptors (i.e. schools, senior and community centers, parks, hospitals and residential communities, as well as children and seniors).
- Ensure all land use decisions are made equitably to safeguard residents from health effects of air pollution;
- Reduce mobile source pollution, especially toxic diesel exhaust emissions, and support clean-fueled vehicles;

- Reinforce multi-jurisdictional cooperation to ensure environmental assessments include air quality effects of, and benefits from, projects;
- Include emission reductions as a goal of design guidelines for construction.

The draft MAQE will be presented to the AQMD Governing Board later this summer. If approved, it will be offered for consideration at the local level.

*For more information, contact Anupom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.*

## Small Business Breakfast Update

Please join the AQMD and local business organizations for presentations and discussions on how AQMD can help small businesses comply with air quality rules:

- May 26 – USC Davidson Center
- June 17 – Irvine Marriott
- June 24 – San Bernardino Hilton

Attendance is free. Complimentary breakfast will be provided. For more information or to register, contact Arlene Farol at (909) 396-2250.

## Interfaith Summit Promotes Environmental Stewardship

**O**ver 130 faith and community leaders, educators, and legislators attended AQMD's Our Faith ~ Our Planet, Interfaith Summit on Air Quality in February at the USC Davidson Conference Center in Los Angeles. Attendees were so receptive to the information presented during the half-day event that they urged the air pollution control agency to continue the dialogue. Executive Officer Barry Wallerstein agreed; and in his closing remarks he announced the event as AQMD's 1<sup>st</sup> annual Interfaith Summit.

"We wanted to reach out specifically to these leaders and build partnerships with them to encourage a broad sense of environmental stewardship throughout our region," said Wallerstein. "The summit was the perfect way to initiate these alliances. Their energy for our clean air cause is inspiring and it's important that we do not lose the momentum."

The attendees represented hundreds of thousands of Southlanders of various faiths and community affiliations. The event also drew the support of local legislators including Senator Richard Alarcón and City of Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Eric Brown.

The program included a diverse series of faith declarations; overview presentations on the AQMD and its environmental justice program; a keynote address by Wendy James, president of The Better World Group and board president of the Coalition for Clean Air; a panel discussion on spirituality and environmental stewardship; and two educational working sessions that focused on ways in which attendees can motivate others to participate in efforts to achieve clean, healthful air.

*For more information, contact Lisha Smith at (909) 396-3203.*



# 2004 Clean Air Awards

South Coast  
Air Quality  
Management District



## There's Still Time to Acknowledge Your Local Clean Air Heroes

**S**ince 1988 AQMD has acknowledged individuals, small and large businesses, organizations and government agencies who have made extraordinary contributions that have helped clean the air in Southern California. The tradition continues as AQMD prepares for its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Air Awards ceremony to be held October 13, 2004 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. The agency is currently seeking nominations of "Clean Air Heroes" who have excelled in the areas of:

- Advancement of Air Pollution Technology;
- Innovative Transportation Projects;
- Model Community Achievement;
- Public Education on Air Quality Issues, and
- Promotion of Good Environmental Stewardship.

All nominations received must be postmarked by Friday, May 28, 2004. A downloadable nomination form is available online at [www.aqmd.gov/news/2004/2004NominationForm.pdf](http://www.aqmd.gov/news/2004/2004NominationForm.pdf).

For further information contact Lisha Smith at (909) 396-3203.

## AQMD SPONSORS ASTHMA AND OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY CONSORTIUM

**I**n an effort to better understand how air pollution affects asthma, the AQMD will fund six projects through its newly-created Asthma and Outdoor Air Quality Consortium. The UCLA School of Public Health will oversee the first year of research projects conducted through universities in the South Coast Air Basin. The six projects are:

- A UCLA study on how air pollution exposure affects hospitalization rates for children age 5 and under;
- A USC study that will investigate how pollution varies with local traffic near the homes of children in Long Beach;
- A UC Irvine study that will track pollution exposure through 64 children in Riverside and eastern Los Angeles County who will carry a personal air sampler in their backpacks;
- A UCLA and UC San Francisco study that will examine how proteins in the body act as an identifier of asthma inflammation;
- UCLA research to further investigate the effect of air pollution on the cellular system; and
- The design, test and deployment by USC engineers of a new type of aerosol concentrator to collect real-world ambient air for analysis to better approximate actual exposure.

A portion of AQMD's penalty revenues from fiscal 2002-03 will fund the first year of consortium projects.

For more information, contact Jean Ospital at (909) 396-2582.

## Clean Air Congress Events

### Recent Events

On April 24, San Bernardino Clean Air Congress members visited the AQMD booth at the Environmental EXPO held at Cal State San Bernardino, while the Orange County membership was invited to attend the Clean Air FIESTA in Anaheim, co-sponsored by Gigante Supermarket on May 16.

These events provide an opportunity for Clean Air Congress members to learn more about air quality, view advanced technologies, and meet their AQMD representative along with other staff members.

For information on the Clean Air Congress or future events, log onto AQMD's website at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov) or call Debra Reed at (909) 396-3199.

# RULE UPDATE

The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the AQMD website at [www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb\\_cal95.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb_cal95.html) and check the Rule 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 AQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the website at [www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html) or provided by AQMD's Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

## June 2004



### Regulation III-Fees

This proposed adjustment would amend fee rules in accordance with AQMD's FY2004-05 budget.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at [lbowen@aqmd.gov](mailto:lbowen@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-2575.



### Rule 1196-Clean On-Road Heavy-Duty Public Fleet Vehicles & Rule 1186.1-Alternative-Fuel Sweepers

Proposed Amended Rules 1196 and 1186.1 would provide for an extension or removal of the sunset date for the five-mile refueling infrastructure limitation.

For more information, contact Dean Saito at [dsaito@aqmd.gov](mailto:dsaito@aqmd.gov) (909) 396-2647.



### Rule 2015 – Backstop Provisions

The proposed amendments to this rule address an EPA approval issue related to breakdown emissions.

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

## July 2004



### Rule 1113-Architectural Coatings

This proposed amendment will be based on technical evaluations of lower VOC limits.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at [lbowen@aqmd.gov](mailto:lbowen@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-2575.



### Rule 1127-Emission Reductions from Livestock Waste

This proposed rule seeks to reduce ammonia and VOC emissions from livestock waste.

For more information, contact Zorik Pirveysian at [zpirveysian@aqmd.gov](mailto:zpirveysian@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-3133.



### Rule 1157- PM<sub>10</sub> Emission Reductions from Aggregate Operations

This proposed rule is aimed at achieving further PM<sub>10</sub> reductions from cement manufacturing plants and processes.

For more information, contact Julia Lester at [jlester@aqmd.gov](mailto:jlester@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-3162.



### Rule 1162-Polyester Resin Operations

Proposed amendments will revise the definition of non-atomizing spray application; techniques for gelcoats.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at [lbowen@aqmd.gov](mailto:lbowen@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-2575.



### Regulation XX -RECLAIM

These rule amendments propose the reentry of power producing facilities into the Regional Clean Air Incentives Market program.

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

# POPULAR CONCERT SERIES RETURNS TO THE AQMD CLEAN AIR STAGE

For the third straight year, the AQMD will help educate an estimated 100,000 concertgoers on how to do their share for cleaner air, as one of the primary sponsors of the Twilight Dance Series on the Santa Monica Pier. This year's series of 10 free concerts, presented on the AQMD Clean Air Stage, promises to be particularly exciting as the event will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The concert lineup will be announced in late May and can be viewed then at [www.twilightdanceseries.com](http://www.twilightdanceseries.com). Concerts start at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday from July 1 to September 2.

The AQMD will use the concerts to launch its Clean Air Choice summer campaign. Set to coincide with a major portion of smog season, the campaign will focus consumer attention on the lowest-emitting new cars available, through a window sticker program innovated by the AQMD. On the Pier, the AQMD will have on display one or more Clean Air Choice vehicles at each concert. A surprising range of vehicles qualify as Clean Air Choices including cars, trucks, mini-vans, sports cars and sports utility vehicles. The complete list of qualifying vehicles is available at [www.cleanairchoices.org](http://www.cleanairchoices.org).

Also at each concert, the AQMD will have an interactive booth with air quality professionals available to answer questions, along with free literature designed to inform and empower consumers.

"The Santa Monica Pier and the Twilight Dance Series has proven to be a powerful venue to involve consumers in the fight for cleaner air," said AQMD Executive Officer Barry Wallerstein. "Spending a summer evening on the Pier enjoying a free concert and breathing the clean ocean air is a Southern California tradition which we are proud to support."

For more information, contact Sam Atwood at (909) 396-3456.

# Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD



AQMD  
Advisor

Jill Whynot

**J**ill Whynot serves as a planning & rules manager overseeing rulemaking in the areas of air toxics, NOx control, and emissions credit trading.

A recent board meeting agenda can illustrate one of Jill's typical workdays: her work section was responsible for proposing requirements to reduce emissions from back-up diesel generators, as well as presenting an addendum to AQMD's comprehensive air toxics control plan. "My staff works on the building blocks and the overall structure, too," says Jill.

A Southern California resident for most of her life, Jill received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in environmental & occupational health science from Cal State University

Northridge, and then spent ten years as a chemist carrying out health effects research at the Rancho Los Amigos medical center in Downey.

"We measured individuals' lung function after exposure to air pollutants," she says, "and our studies involved subjects ranging from asthmatic kids to elite athletes to seniors with chronic lung disease."

Jill first joined the AQMD nearly fifteen years ago as a staff specialist in compliance, then worked her way up through supervisor duties to her current position as manager. Along the way, she and her team have exercised skills in public outreach and consensus-building that helped contribute toward a number of projects addressing air toxics,

including the Cumulative Impacts Reduction Strategies approved by the Governing Board in fall 2003.

Jill and husband Jeff recently celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are very proud of their two adult children, who attend local colleges, and both mother and daughter play soccer. "I belong to a very low-key, recreational league," she says; "My daughter is the real athlete." She also shares a special bond with her sister Julie: they are identical twins.

"Besides my family, I really appreciate having meaningful work to do, and wonderful co-workers to work with," she says, "because we help make a difference in cleaning up the air."

**A**s a young boy growing up with four siblings in Malaysia, Mohan Balogopalan never dreamed that he would be living and working in sunny Southern California, let alone fighting to help curb pollution.

He joined the AQMD in 1985 as a Data Technician, and six months later became an Air Quality Engineer, working out in Colton. Mohan stated "it was the best exposure to a broad array of permit problems; being the newest team member, I got the oldest, problematic permits to work on, which ultimately made me a more valuable team member." That is where his experience in Air Toxics began.

Mohan is now a Senior Air Quality Engineer working in Permit Streamlining. "Because I had the opportunity to work out in the old Colton office getting as much exposure to so many different permitting problems, I consider myself a resource both in and outside the District," he said.

Mohan received his Mechanical Engineering degree in India and his Masters in Business Administration here in California at Azusa Pacific University. He keeps very busy by teaching evening classes at UC Riverside on Air Quality Permitting, Geographic Information Systems for Air Quality Applications, and Dispersion Modeling. He is a past President of the Society of Risk Analysis, and is an Adjunct Professor at Loma Linda University, School of Public Health. Additionally, he is on the Cal Poly Pomona GIS Industry Advisory Board. He also has a patent pending on a product idea.

Mohan's wife is a teacher and they have two sons aged 12 and 7. Both boys play basketball and the older boy fences.



Mohan Balogopalan

**I**f you need to know about an AQMD event going on, or a problem spot in one of the four counties of the AQMD's boundaries, give Denny Shaw a call. He usually has the answer, and if he doesn't, he knows who will. Denny began his career at the AQMD in 1989 as a radiotelephone operator dispatcher. He now supervises a staff of seven operators/attendants in the communications complaint center.

The communications center is often the first contact that the public makes with the AQMD. The communications center handles the 1-800-CUT-SMOG complaint line, the agency's main line, and the Spanish hotline, totaling approximately 12,000 calls a month. But knowing about the complaints is not what makes Denny the valuable employee that he is; it is how he is able to field the wide variety of questions that come in every day.

Although he works in the Public Affairs Division, Denny works closely with the Inspector's field support teams, as the complaints his team receives are routed to inspectors as necessary. In addition to running the communications center, Denny often staffs special events that Public Affairs is responsible for attending.

Born in "laid back" Jamaica, raised in "rush-rush" New York City, and ultimately relocating to Walnut, Denny epitomizes the well-traveled but relaxed southern California attitude. His wife Blanca and he have three daughters (Alex 15, Vanessa 12, and Gabriella 8). His youngest daughter has asthma. "That experience has given me the insight and education to help the public better understand the perils of what our smog is doing to the health of our children, and the importance of cleaning the air," he says.

Traveling with his family to different tropical islands, coaching his daughters' soccer team, and playing league basketball with several AQMD staff members round out Denny's outside activities.



Denny Shaw



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## Briefly...

### RULE COMPLIANCE PROMOTION CLASSES

Upcoming Compliance classes will be held as follows:

#### Rule 403-Fugitive Dust

- May 12
- July 14

Classes will be held on the above dates at AQMD headquarters starting at 8:30 a.m. An additional class will be held May 20 in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert. Classes start at 1:00 p.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To reserve a space, call (909) 396-2183.

#### Rule 461-Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing

Pre-registration is required for the following three classes. All classes are held at AQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters. To reserve a space, download the registration form at [www.aqmd.gov/comply/complclass.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/comply/complclass.html) or call (909) 396-3058.

#### Annual Periodic Inspection

■ June 17 & 18  
This two-day class will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the first day and from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the second day. There is a \$150 registration fee, with pre-registration required.

#### Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Tester Orientation Training

■ June 11  
The classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is a \$100 class fee.

#### Daily Self-Inspection Class for Service Station Owners/Operators

■ June 3  
The classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is a \$50 class fee.

#### Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/Renovation Activities

■ May 12  
■ June 16  
The classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at AQMD Headquarters. There is a \$30 class fee. Registration can be arranged by calling (909) 396-2381 or by sending e-mail to [jmoore@aqmd.gov](mailto:jmoore@aqmd.gov).

#### Rule 2202-Employee Transportation Coordinator Training

■ May 12 or 13, Enterprise Rideshare, 2861 E. Coronado Street, Anaheim  
■ June 9 or 10, Metrolink 700 Flower Street, 26th floor, Los Angeles  
■ June 23 or 24, at AQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters. Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$52.79 per person. Enrollment is limited to 25 students and classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve a space, call Paulette Henson (909) 396-3374.

#### Certified Permitting Professional Exam

■ June 18 – AQMD Headquarters. The exam begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m. There is an exam fee of \$150. To register, send an e-mail to [phaimov@aqmd.gov](mailto:phaimov@aqmd.gov) that includes your name, company, address, work phone, fax and e-mail address. The last day to register is June 4, 2004. For additional information, please call the CPP hotline at (909) 396-3383.

**DID YOU KNOW ...?**

**MAY**  
Is Clean Air Month

Use an electric lawnmower

Walk or ride your bicycle

Carpool, vanpool or take the bus

Buy a low-emission, fuel-efficient car

Keep your car tuned up

Cleaning the air that we breathe...

For more tips or information, call 1-800-CUT-SMOG (288-7664) or visit [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov).

## AQMD Advisor

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