

## AQMD Releases Draft 2007 Air Quality Management Plan

**A**QMD officials on October 11, 2006 released a road map for achieving new and more stringent federal clean air standards including dozens of aggressive pollution control measures on sources, from consumer products to ocean-going ships.

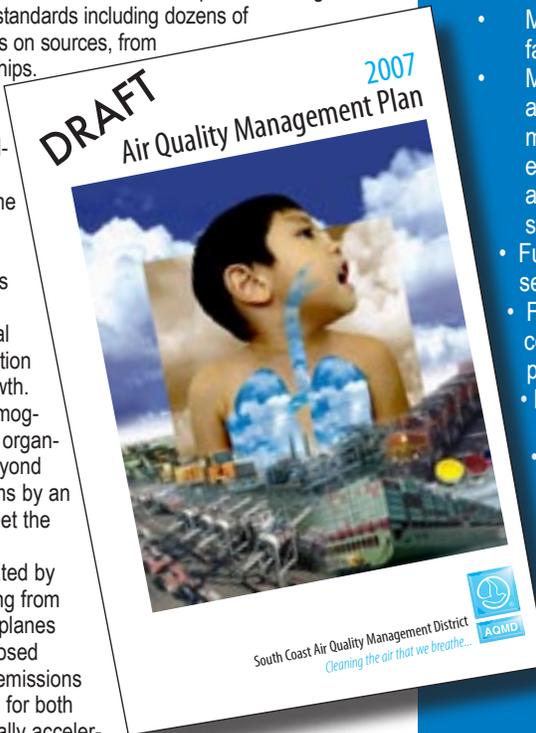
AQMD's draft 2007 Air Quality Management Plan lays out a detailed strategy for meeting the federal fine particulate PM2.5 standard by 2015 and the federal 8-hour ozone standard by 2021.

AQMD's Air Quality Management Plan uses complex computer models to predict the amount of emissions reductions needed to achieve federal standards, factoring in existing pollution control programs and projected growth. The plan shows that emissions of smog-forming nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds will have to be cut beyond the requirements in existing programs by an additional 50 percent by 2020 to meet the 8-hour ozone standard.

Since most air pollution is generated by mobile sources – including everything from cars and trucks to ships, trains and planes – much of the plan focuses on proposed measures to reduce mobile source emissions through tougher emission standards for both new and existing vehicles; dramatically accelerated turnover of existing fleets and incentive programs to help fund the replacement of aging, dirty diesel equipment. In addition to mobile source controls, significant reformulation of consumer products and continued emission reductions from businesses and industry will be needed to reach clean air goals.

A series of public workshops will be held to seek public input on the draft plan. See page 6 for the schedule.

For more information, contact Joe Cassmassi at (909) 396-3155.



## Some of the nearly 60 proposed control measures in the 2007 AQMP include:

- Modernization of industrial/commercial facilities;
- Multiple measures for emission reductions at the ports, including clean-fuel requirements for ocean-going ships; further emission reductions from ships at berth and cargo handling equipment; and vessel speed reduction;
- Further emission reductions from gasoline service stations;
- Further emission reductions from consumer products and a consumer product labeling program;
- Emission reductions from wood-burning fireplaces and woodstoves;
- Emission reductions from new or redevelopment projects;
- Smog Check improvements;
- Expanded vehicle retirement and mandatory parts replacement;
- Further emission reductions from out-of-state/internationally registered heavy-duty trucks;
- Further emission reductions from locomotives;
- More stringent motorcycle emission standards;
- Enhanced emissions inspection for heavy-duty trucks;
- More stringent exhaust standards for off-road recreational vehicles;
- Evaporative emission standards for recreational vehicles and marine pleasure craft;
- Emission reductions from aircraft; and
- Stricter exhaust and evaporative emission standards for lawn and garden equipment.



## Clean Vehicle Technology Expo Focuses on Fleet Vehicles

**S**outhern California's public and private fleet vehicle operators received the latest clean vehicle technology and funding information to help them more expeditiously and economically convert their fleets over to cleaner, alternative fueled vehicles, during a 2-day Clean Vehicle Technology Expo hosted by the AQMD.

The Expo, held at the Ontario Convention Center on October 10-11, is part of the AQMD's overall program to reduce emissions from mobile sources, which now are the source of over 75 percent of the Southland's air pollution.

Highlights of the Expo included: the keynote address by Dr. Alan Lloyd, panels featuring experts discussing the latest technology and vehicles available for light-duty, medium heavy-duty and heavy heavy-duty, and a Ride & Drive featuring a range of vehicles from transit

buses to school buses to street sweepers and many light-duty vehicles operating on hydrogen, natural gas, propane, electric and plug-in hybrids.

Over 550 participants attended the Expo. Participants included: fleet representatives from over 35 cities, Counties of Orange, Riverside and San Bernadino, private fleets like FedEx and UPS, law enforcement agencies like the Orange County Sheriff's Department, school bus fleets including Oak Park Unified School District, fleet departments from UCI, UCLA and UCSD, a variety of transit authorities and several port terminal operators.

Fleet operators in the region currently face many challenges while operating their fleets of trucks and other diesel powered vehicles. The cost of diesel fleet vehicles and fuel continues to rise with increasingly stringent regulations and high oil prices.

Participants at the Expo were provided with information on how to build effective relationships with providers of state-of-the art electric, fuel cell, natural gas, hybrid, propane and other alternative/clean fuel technologies. Attendees were also provided with information about the millions of dollars available in grant funding for these projects.

Information was also provided on the AQMD and California Air Resources Board fleet rules, cleaner engine and vehicle availability in 2007 and beyond, tax credits and incentives for fleets.

Participants were able to attend workshops, a tradeshow and experience Ride & Drive opportunities in medium and heavy-duty clean fuel vehicles.

For more information, contact Dean Saito at (909) 396-2647.

Cleaning the air  
that we breathe...®



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# Southland Smog Season on Par With Recent Years

**T**his year's smog season is drawing to a close with 86 days of unhealthy air quality – a number similar to that experienced during the past two years.

"Personal exposure to air pollution is diminishing but not at the dramatic pace that we experienced during the past two decades," said Barry Wallerstein, executive officer for the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

"This trend makes it imperative that we redouble our efforts to reduce emissions, particularly from mobile sources, in order to meet upcoming federal ozone and particulate matter standards."

AQMD released its updated blueprint for achieving healthful air – the draft 2007 Air Quality Management Plan – in early October. Under state and federal law, the plan must scientifically demonstrate how specific future air pollution control measures can achieve the emissions reductions needed to achieve health-based air quality standards.

As of September 27, the Southland exceeded the federal 8-hour ozone health standard on 86 days this year, compared to 83 days during all of 2005 and 88 days in 2004. (Smog season officially begins on May 1 and ends on Oct. 31. While autumn's cooler temperatures and shorter days dramatically reduce the potential for ozone formation, next month may bring one or more additional days exceeding the ozone standard.)

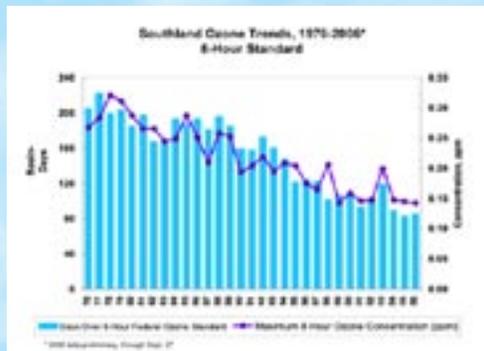
The peak 8-hour ozone concentration this year was 0.143 parts per million (ppm), slightly below the peak of 0.145 ppm experienced in 2005 and 2004. The 1-hour ozone average -- no longer a regulatory standard but still an important air quality benchmark -- was exceeded on 35 days this year, up from 31 days last year and 27 days in 2004.

The 2006 smog season peaked early this year due to unusually warm weather patterns in June and July. Summer weather returned to normal in August and September.

Weather plays a major role in smog levels from year to year, and for that reason air quality trends need to be examined over a period of several years to judge progress toward clean air goals.

Despite the strictest air quality requirements in the nation, Southern California continues to have the worst overall air pollution. Two other areas of the country – Houston and the San Joaquin Valley – also have severe ozone problems and periodically surpass the Southland in the number of ozone violations. This year Southern California again surpassed both Houston and the San Joaquin Valley with the worst air quality in the nation. As of Sept. 27, Houston exceeded the 8-hour ozone standard on 34 days and the one-hour standard on 19 days. San Joaquin Valley violated the 8-hour ozone standard on 82 days and the one-hour standard on 18 days as of the same date.

For more information, contact Kevin Durkee at (909) 396-3168.



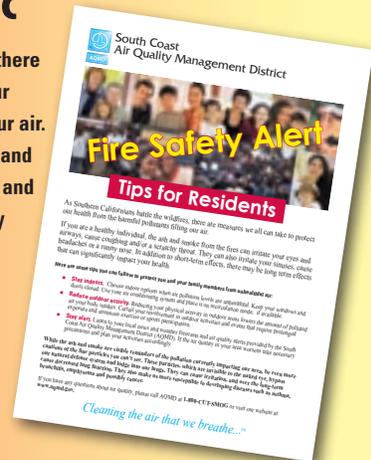
# Fire Safety Alert Fact Sheets Available to the Public

As Southern Californians battle wildfires, there are measures we can all take to protect our health from the harmful pollutants filling our air.

If you are a healthy individual, the ash and smoke from the fires can irritate your eyes and airways, cause coughing and/or a scratchy throat. They can also irritate your sinuses, cause headaches or a runny nose. In addition to short-term health effects, there may be long term effects that can significantly impact your health.

Smoke from fires can also have harmful impacts on the health of senior citizens and children. The AQMD has fact sheets available to provide tips for residents, senior citizens and children.

The Fire Safety Alert Fact Sheets are available on-line at the AQMD's website at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov). You can also obtain copies by contacting the AQMD's Public Information Center at 909-396-3600.



# Recent AQMD Governing Board Actions

The following actions were taken by the AQMD Governing Board recently:

## October 2006

- Awarded more than \$24 million to replace 133 older, dirty diesel school buses with new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and retrofit 452 existing diesel school buses with control devices to reduce particulate matter emissions. Funding was also provided to defray costs for the necessary refueling infrastructure. Since 2000, AQMD has awarded over \$82 million to replace 419 diesel school buses and retrofit another 2,500 with emission control devices; and
- Awarded more than \$30 million for 46 projects under the Carl Moyer Program to help replace existing engines in various on-road, off-road, marine, locomotive, and agricultural vehicles with cleaner engines to reduce nitrogen oxide and particulate emissions. A list of projects is available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/hb/2006/October/06104A.HTML>. For more information, contact Chung Liu at (909) 396-2105.

## September 2006

- Awarded contracts to develop and demonstrate exhaust after-treatment systems for three different types of locomotive engines to reduce nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions. The emission control devices will be demonstrated on two Metrolink passenger locomotives and one Pacific Harbor Line switcher locomotive in the Southland. There are more than 150 locomotives in the four-county region that could be retrofitted with this technology;
- Approved funding to implement air monitoring for smog-forming and toxic air emissions in the port areas and along Interstate 710 as part of the AQMD's Clean Port Initiative adopted in January, 2006; For more information, contact Chung Liu at (909) 396-2105.
- Amended Rule 1157 – PM10 Emission Reductions from Aggregate and Related Operations – to streamline requirements and specify additional dust control strategies to be implemented by aggregate loading and transporting activities to qualify for a high-wind exemption. For more information, contact Laki Tisopolos at (909) 396-3123.

# AQMD's Small Business Assistance Services Available at No Cost

**S**taff from the AQMD's Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO) helps small business owners comply with AQMD rules and regulations through a variety of no-cost services. The SBAO helps small business owners and operators determine which rules apply to their operations, how to meet AQMD requirements, keep proper records, and obtain financing for air pollution control equipment.

SBAO staff provide free technical consultations, either on-site at the business, on the phone, or at the AQMD headquarters in Diamond Bar. During these consultations, SBAO staff can help completing permit applications, as well as provide compliance assistance.

Businesses that have unavoidable problems where they cannot comply with air pollution control laws, and need temporary relief while working toward a solution without being subject to penalties, may need to obtain a variance. SBAO staff provide assistance to small businesses preparing variance petition applications for the Hearing Board, and familiarizing businesses with the variance process.

The AQMD's Governing Board has authorized a financial assistance program to help dry cleaners to convert to alternative technology machines; and committed up to \$3 million toward this program. SBAO staff also facilitate SAQMD's Fee Review Committee. This committee resolves fee related disputes and approves payment plans for businesses that are in financial hardship. SBAO staff can assist small business owners with filing for Fee Review Requests.

California state law requires that business owners need to comply with the applicable requirements of the AQMD before being issued an occupancy permit. SBAO staff can review those proposals and issue a clearance letter for businesses that have either complied with AQMD permitting requirements, or are exempt from obtaining AQMD permits.

For additional information on any of these services, or to arrange an appointment with SBAO staff, go to the Small Business Assistance web page at: [www.aqmd.gov/business/smallbizstaff.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/business/smallbizstaff.html). Assistance may also be obtained by calling: 1-800-CUT-SMOG or (909)-396-3529, or by sending an e-mail to [smallbizassistance@aqmd.gov](mailto:smallbizassistance@aqmd.gov). For more information, contact Pom Pom Gangulu at (909) 396-3185.

# SAVE THE DATE

## Asthma Is a Small World ... International Conference on Asthma Impacts of Air Pollution

April 26-27, 2007 - Disneyland Hotel  
Anaheim, California USA



Email [AsthmaConference@aqmd.gov](mailto:AsthmaConference@aqmd.gov) or call 909-396-2432 / 1-800-CUT-SMOG for more information.

## AQMD Adopts Rule To Minimize Odors From Trash Facilities

**O**n Oct. 6, 2006 the AQMD's Governing Board adopted the nation's first air quality regulation specifically designed to minimize odors from trash and recycling centers.

"Many of these facilities are located in areas where residents are heavily impacted by odors from these operations," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., AQMD's Governing Board Chairman. "This new measure will ensure facilities are employing feasible measures to prevent odors from their operations."

AQMD's Governing Board adopted Rule 410 – Odors from Transfer Stations and Material Recovery Facilities – as a preventative approach to reducing the odors in communities from nearby trash transfer and sorting facilities.

Solid waste, green waste, construction materials and recyclables are taken in collection trucks to transfer stations where they are sorted and transferred to larger trucks that transport the waste to other disposal sites such as landfills or recycling centers. Material recovery facilities (MRFs) sort and separate recyclable material from solid waste.

There are 45 trash transfer stations and MRFs in the Southland subject to Rule 410. From January 2001 through October 2005 AQMD received more than 1,500 complaints – verified by AQMD field inspectors – of odors from these waste facilities.

Historically, AQMD has used its Rule 402 – Public Nuisance, to address odor complaints from waste operations and other facilities. However, the rule is a limited enforcement tool requiring a number of public complaints and the tracking of frequently fleeting odors to their source.

This action is one strategy in AQMD's Cumulative Impacts White Paper approved by the agency's Governing Board in 2003. The strategy recommended the development of a pilot odor abatement program to help prevent exposure to odors. Since AQMD receives a high number of odor complaints from trash transfer stations and MRFs, the industry was selected for an odor regulation.

Beginning January 1, 2008, all trash transfer stations and MRFs permitted to handle more than 100 tons per day of solid waste must have an odor management plan approved by the AQMD or a solid waste management enforcement agency. The rule requires facility operators to designate an odor control method or technique for each source of odors at a facility. Additional elements are required in the odor plan if a facility handles green waste.

In addition to an odor plan, new or modified facilities handling more than 1,000 tons per day of material must implement additional odor control strategies that include misting systems, partial or full enclosures or demonstrating that the facility is located more than 1,000 feet from areas zoned for schools or residential development.

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

### Some of the required elements of an odor plan include:

- Information on the amount of material a facility handles per day. Facilities handling more than 250 tons per day will be subject to additional control measures;
- Housekeeping measures, such as sweeping the area where materials are transferred;
- Covering of trucks and trailers within 15 minutes after loading; and
- Protocol for handling community complaints, including placing a contact sign at least 50 feet from the main entrance and maintaining a written log of odor complaints received.

# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Air Awards 2006

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Air Award Winners Honored

At the 2006 Clean Air Awards, AQMD recognized the outstanding achievements of the individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions toward improving the air we breathe here in Southern California. This year's winners are:

### 2006 LEADERSHIP IN GOVERNMENT AWARD

#### Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City of Los Angeles

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is determined to make Los Angeles a cleaner, greener and more beautiful city. He has pledged to convert 85 percent of the city's fleet to alternative fuel by 2010, and has started by purchasing 50 additional liquefied natural gas garbage trucks. His administration has also committed to plant one million trees across Los Angeles, to help reduce global greenhouse gases. Similarly, he has launched "green" building practices in new city libraries and started a program to expedite plan-checking for green construction. More recently he joined with union port workers and port commissioners in the union's "Saving Lives" campaign which asks shipping companies to reduce emissions by 20 percent over the next four years.



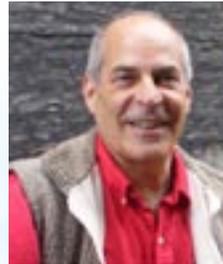
### PROMOTION OF GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

#### International Longshore and Warehouseman's Union, Local 13

For the past nine years, members of the International Longshore and Warehouseman's Union, Local 13 (ILWU) – have actively campaigned for the reduction of air pollution from the ports. The union has provided testimony at town hall meetings and at regulatory and legislative hearings emphasizing the fact that its members are among the first to suffer the adverse health effects of port pollution. In conjunction with Mayor Villaraigosa, the ILWU launched the "Saving Lives" campaign.



#### Victor Weisser



As a critical player in statewide environmental issues, Victor Weisser is the senior advisor to the staff of the California Environmental Dialogue as well as president and chief executive officer of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, where he has continually sought consensus-building and cooperation in the regulatory process. Weisser played a critical role in promoting legislation that secured long-term funding for the Carl Moyer Program and also helped establish the Moyer Light-Duty Program, through which funding is offered to help repair or scrap light-duty vehicles that have been identified as gross polluters. Weisser also has been instrumental in trying to improve California's Smog Check program to achieve additional emission reductions.

### ADVANCEMENT OF AIR POLLUTION TECHNOLOGY

#### Maersk, Inc.

Maersk, Inc., which operates the largest container terminal in the Los Angeles harbor, took a step towards cleaner air in the shipping industry when the company voluntarily switched all 37 of its cargo ships to low-sulfur fuel in May 2006. Maersk estimates that this switch reduces sulfur oxides by 92 percent, particulate matter by 73 percent and nitrogen oxides by 10 percent. Maersk is exploring other emission reduction strategies, including a pilot program testing selective catalytic reduction technology.



**INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**



**Raytheon Company Space and Airborne Systems, El Segundo**

The Raytheon Company has promoted employee ridesharing for the last 26 years. Through alternative transportation methods, employee miles driven to the Space and Airborne Systems offices in El Segundo have been reduced by more than 11 million miles. Currently, more than 1,000 employees carpool, vanpool or use public transportation. Additionally, Raytheon donated land for the construction

of a new Metro Rail Gold Line station and has compiled an easy-access, on-line database of mass transit information.

**MODEL COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT**



**City of South Pasadena**

A city of only 25,000 residents, South Pasadena has aggressively addressed clean air and traffic congestion efforts by adopting a policy of replacing its vehicle fleet with certified low-emission vehicles, including hybrid and compressed natural gas vehicles. Residents are offered reduced fees for overnight parking permits as an incentive to purchase low-emission vehicles and the city adopted a policy

requiring 50 percent of its heavy-duty vehicle replacements to be low-emission vehicles. The city encourages residents to use the Metro Rail Gold Line by providing fully subsidized bus rides to the train station and discount rides for senior citizens.

**ROBERT M. ZWEIG, M.D. MEMORIAL AWARD**

**Dr. Beate Ritz, Professor, Department of Epidemiology, UCLA**

Dr. Beate Ritz, who studies the effects of air pollution on infants and fetuses, is currently conducting research to pinpoint which toxic air pollutants cause problems in the womb. Her work on the developmental stages of the respiratory system has led to similar studies in more than 15 other countries around the globe. Dr. Ritz's recent study found that women who were exposed to higher levels of air pollution were more likely to have children with birth defects or respiratory problems.



**PUBLIC EDUCATION ON AIR QUALITY ISSUES**

**Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA)**

Founded in 1999, LBACA educates Long Beach residents about the effects of air pollution and strives to improve the lives of children with asthma. A partnership program of Miller Children's Hospital of Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, LBACA conducts programming for medical staff, parents and teachers to better educate them on methods for recognizing, treating and preventing symptoms of asthma. LBACA has expanded its programming to school and community outreach with neighborhood assessment teams known as "A-Teams" that identify and test outdoor air pollution hot spots, monitor traffic patterns and test ultrafine particulate matter in the air. LBACA then uses the information to petition for clean air legislation for the Long Beach area.

**Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition**

The Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition, a government-community partnership through the U.S. Department of Energy, hosted well-attended fairs in April to educate residents about the importance of car maintenance as a means of promoting clean air and to provide information about alternative fuel vehicle options. The events included free car inspections and emissions testing.

The fairs took place in five communities including Perris, Hemet, Moreno Valley, and the Corona/Norco area, where more than 2,500 people attended and a total of 121 vehicles were inspected.



**MOST INNOVATIVE IDEA FOR THE 2007 AQMP**



**Jim Stewart, Ph.D.**

Dr. Jim Stewart, a physics professor and environmental scientist, gave the winning response to an AQMD request this year for innovative ideas for the 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). He suggested that the AQMP should include global warming analysis and reduction strategies. Dr. Stewart, the organizing director of Earth Day LA, pointed out that global climate changes also would have impacts on local air quality in Southern California. These include increased smog formation, forest fires and dust from dry fields, as well as higher ambient temperatures which would increase the demand for electric power.

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.

## December

### Proposed Amended Rule 1173-Control of Volatile Organic Compound Leaks and Releases from Components at Petroleum Facilities and Chemical Plants

Amendments, as necessary, to address significant releases from atmospheric pressure relief devices. *For more information, contact Larry Bowen at [lbowen@aqmd.gov](mailto:lbowen@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-2575.*

### Proposed Rules 1401-New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants; 1402-Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources

Will bring recommendations for how to address diesel internal combustion engines in AB 2588 and recommended procedures for public notification for these engines, dry cleaners and gas stations. *For more information, contact Jill Whynot at [jwhynt@aqmd.gov](mailto:jwhynt@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-3104.*

### Proposed Rule 1470.1-Risk Requirements for Stationary Diesel-Fueled Internal Combustion and other Compression Ignition Engines

Would implement AB 2588 and to address the health risk from diesel particulate from internal combustion sources. *For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at [snakamura@aqmd.gov](mailto:snakamura@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-3105.*

### Proposed Rule 1471-Agricultural Stationary Compression Ignition Engines

Would implement CARB's control measure for diesel-powered agricultural engines and may consolidate requirements for agricultural engines from Rule 1470. *For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at [snakamura@aqmd.gov](mailto:snakamura@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-3105.*

## January

### Proposed Rule 1130.2-Inkjet Printing Operations

Would establish VOC limits and other requirements for inkjet printing operations. *For more information, contact Larry Bowen at [lbowen@aqmd.gov](mailto:lbowen@aqmd.gov) or (909) 396-2575.*

## Recent Events



### Town Hall Meetings

On October 19, AQMD held a town hall meeting in the City of Cerritos that was attended by over 60 people, including Board Member Tonia Reyes Uranga and Cerritos Mayor Paul Bowlen. AQMD staff presented an overview of the 2007 Draft Air Quality Management Plan. Some 25 Earth Science students from nearby Cerritos College were also in attendance to learn more about air pollution, and the AQMD's future plans to clean the air.

### California Electricity & Air Quality Conference

The AQMD co-hosted the California Electricity & Air Quality Conference. This inaugural conference examined the relationship between California's air pollution concerns and the increasing statewide demand for electricity. The event was held October 3-4, 2006, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento.

### Black Business Expo & Trade Show

AQMD staff maintained a booth at the Black Business Expo & Trade Show. This annual event brings small businesses and corporations to the attention of an estimated 55,000 attendees. AQMD staff were on hand to discuss the small business assistance program and to exhibit a Toyota Prius to help promote Clean Air Choices. Clean Air Choices is a program sponsored by the AQMD to provide information to help individuals make personal transportation decisions that benefit the environment and improve air quality. The event was held September 22-24, 2006 at the Los Angeles Convention Center. *For more information, contact Lourdes Cordova Martinez at (909) 396-3214.*

## Schedule of Public Workshops - DRAFT 2007 Air Quality Management Plan

**November 14, 2006 – 9 a.m.**  
Burbank Council Chambers  
275 E. Olive Ave.  
Burbank, CA 91765

**November 15, 2006 – 9 a.m.**  
Riverside Convention Center  
3443 Orange Street  
Riverside, CA 91765

**November 15, 2006 – 2 p.m.**  
Santa Ana Council Chambers  
22 Civic Center Plaza  
Santa Ana, CA 91765

**November 16, 2006 – 2 p.m.**  
AQMD Room GB  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**November 29, 2006 – 6 p.m.**  
Community Room  
San Bernardino City  
Unified School District  
777 North F. Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92410

**November 30, 2006 – 6 p.m.**  
Council Chambers  
City of Newport Beach  
3300 Newport Blvd.  
Newport Beach, CA 92663

**December 6, 2006 – 6 p.m.**  
AQMD Room GB  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

# Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD

AQMD  
Advisor



Ed Pupka

**E**d Pupka, senior enforcement manager, began his AQMD career in December 1981 as an air quality inspector of gasoline vapor recovery equipment. Presently, he oversees compliance programs in the Refinery, Energy/Air Toxics branch of the agency.

Ed earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Cal Poly Pomona. He also has extensive training in hazardous materials management & emergency incident response. Prior to District employment, he worked for the U.S. Forest Service conducting post-fire soil analysis.

During his 25 years at AQMD, Ed has worked with various industry types including dry cleaners, asbestos abatement, landfills and major manufacturers. He performed lead work in developing the Coachella Valley fugitive

dust mitigation program.

"We interfaced with numerous major developers, performing extensive community and industry outreach, co-authoring a model ordinance for local governments, and creating a contractor training & certification program," he says.

"It was baptism by fire," he recalls, "a challenging balancing act, working with the various stakeholders. However, it was also a tremendous opportunity to build an effective compliance program literally from the ground up."

AQMD's fugitive dust program became a nation-wide model for regions where windblown dust from construction activities impacts air quality and public health.

Ed's wife Lori teaches orthopedically handicapped children at Sumner/Danbury school in Claremont. Their son Landon, 17, an avid water-polo player, plans to become a paramedic/firefighter, and daughter Taylor, 22, attends USC School of Pharmacy.

Ed's interests include collecting Native American Indian artifacts, visiting antique flea markets, and backpacking.

"My family has lived in Pomona Valley since 1854," he says. "Growing up, I rarely saw the foothills because of the thick summer smog and smoke from winter smudge pots. Since then, we've made tremendous cleanup progress. Now, every morning when I wake up, I look out our bedroom window and see the San Gabriel Mountains, year-round."

**I**n 1971 Gail Georg started her journey with the San Bernardino County Air Pollution Control District as a Secretary/Radio Operator. In 1976 Gail took a four year hiatus to take care of her infant son. She started back in 1980 with the South Coast AQMD as an Office Assistant in the District Open Burn Program in Colton.



Gail Georg

Once the Colton office was closed down, she began her daily trek from her home in Crestline to the Diamond Bar office, where she now holds a Senior Office Assistant position in Permit Services handling the Quality Assurance/Quality Control on command and control permits. Gail stated "I didn't realize how much more the AQMD does for the permit holders. In the Colton office we only saw one small part of what the AQMD does. We offer so much more than just permitting and enforcement."

Gail attended San Bernardino Valley College, taking courses in Music, English and Environmental Science. She is an avid reader and finds the beautiful serenity of the mountain life perfect – she has been living there for over forty years. Gail has experienced entertaining several wild house guests – a flying squirrel has come in through the mud room several times, as has a family of four raccoons. Gail has experienced the scare of the 2003 wild fires, forcing her out of her home into temporary housing for two weeks, and several times she had been "stuck" in her home for up to a week at a time, during heavy snow storms.

Recently, the Georg family welcomed Ian William Georg, Gail's grandson. He was born on October 4th. Both Grandmother and Grandson are doing just fine.

**K**en Fisher, senior air quality instrument specialist, is originally from Houston, Texas – currently the second-worst urban smog area in the country. He's spent his professional career helping clean up the first-worst area – the South Coast Basin.

After moving to California with family, Ken grew up to earn a bachelor's degree in electronic engineering and worked at TRW.

He joined AQMD's predecessor agency, the Los Angeles Air Pollution Control District, in September 1971 as an inspector.

He then worked on the team that set up the region's original system of air quality monitoring stations.

"At that time, we had what was called a 'wet system,' involving chemicals and mechanical devices," he says, "whereas today the data is optics and electronic. It's been a great experience to have been a part of the original, the transitional, and the modern set-up, especially since it has gotten worldwide interest over the years."

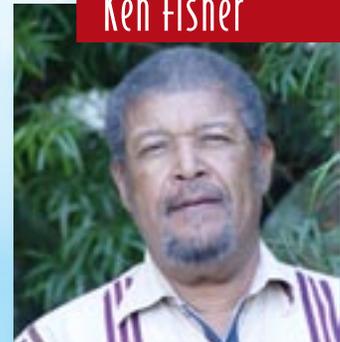
As the network matured, Ken also participated in setting up its quality assurance program, which ensures the data successfully meets rigorous state and national audits.

Ken is currently responsible for inspecting and supervising staff performance checks on 20 of 38 stations. He checks network status by analyzing numerical data received at his laptop, then travels to field sites spread over the District's four counties.

The network's ambient air data was a critical foundation of the ground-breaking USC Children's Health Study, which established links between high smog levels and life-long damage to lung function.

Outside of work, Ken is usually faster at computer games than his grandson and granddaughter – "so far," he laughs. He also holds a degree in psychology, and may pursue a doctoral degree in child psychology after retiring.

"I've already done a lot of traveling and other hobbies," he says. "I'm interested in learning more about myself and other people."



Ken Fisher



South Coast  
Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

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## Briefly...

### Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

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

- November 15
- December 20

The classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at AQMD headquarters. There is a \$32.75 class fee. *To register call (909) 396-2381, or e-mail [jmoore@aqmd.gov](mailto:jmoore@aqmd.gov).*

#### Rule 2202-Employee Transportation Coordinator Training

- November 5, OCTA, Orange
  - November 29, AQMD headquarters, Diamond Bar
- Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$57.63 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. *To register, call (909) 396-2777 or e-mail [etctraining@aqmd.gov](mailto:etctraining@aqmd.gov)*

#### Rule 403-Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin

- November 15
- December 13

This half-day class is held at the AQMD Headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. *To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878), or e-mail [dustcontrol@aqmd.gov](mailto:dustcontrol@aqmd.gov).*

#### Rule 403.1-Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley

- Every third Thursday of the month

This course will be 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. *To register, call 1-866-861-DUST (3878), or e-mail [dustcontrol@aqmd.gov](mailto:dustcontrol@aqmd.gov).*

#### RULE 461-Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing

Pre-registration is required for the following classes. Classes will be

held at AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m., with check-in beginning at 8:00 a.m. *To register, call (909) 396-3058.*

#### Annual Periodic Inspection

- November 16 & 17
- This is a two-day class.  
\$150.00 fee.

#### Tester Orientation

- November 9
- This is a one-day class.  
\$100.00 fee.

## AQMD Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange county and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. *AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.*

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