

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 21, 2022 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the entire South Coast AQMD jurisdiction

Valid: Friday, January 21, 2022 through Sunday, January 23, 2022

This advisory is in effect through noon Sunday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from noon today through noon Sunday due to high winds and dry conditions in the entire South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. As of Friday morning, the National Weather Service (NWS) has posted High Wind Warnings for this area due to strong Santa Ana winds. For information regarding the NWS warnings, please visit the NWS San Diego (<u>https://www.weather.gov/sgx/</u>) website.

These conditions can lift dust and soil and lead to poor air quality. Air quality categories will vary from **Moderate** to **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher, mostly on Saturday. The most significant impacts are expected in the valleys of the Inland Empire and the Coachella Valley. Air quality can vary hour by hour and by location depending on wind conditions.

In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run your air conditioner or an air purifier. If temperatures allow, avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.

Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.



In areas directly impacted by windblown dust: Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <u>http://AirAlerts.org</u>
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Air quality forecasts are available at http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast
- For South Coast AQMD Daily Rule 403.1 High Wind Forecasts for the Coachella Valley call (909) 396-2399 or 1-800-CUT-SMOG.
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.