

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 16, 2025

**MEDIA CONTACT:** 

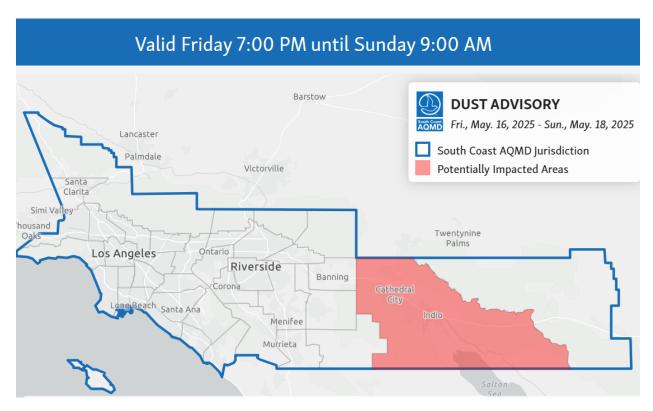
Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

Jack Chin, (909) 396-2075, Cell: (909) 489-3957

press@aqmd.gov

## South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid until Sunday 9:00 AM



## **Forecasted Air Quality Impacts**

- Stronger gusts of 50 to 60 mph with isolated gusts to 70 mph in the northwestern Coachella Valley below the San Gorgonio Pass are predicted from Friday night to Sunday morning.
- Gusty winds can lift dust and soil into the air, resulting in high particle pollution (PM10) levels in the region.

- Blowing dust may result in PM10 levels in the Very Unhealthy or higher air quality index (AQI) categories in the Coachella Valley.
- Expect elevated PM10 levels at times through early Sunday morning, especially in the northwestern part of the valley.
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the <u>South Coast AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u>.

## **Detailed Forecast**

Friday evening to Saturday morning	Wind gusts are expected to remain strong overnight. AQI categories are predicted to range from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Unhealthy</b> or higher at times, with the highest AQI expected in the northwestern Coachella Valley.
Saturday daytime	Wind gusts are expected to subside in the morning and PM10 levels are predicted to improve temporarily. Expect AQI categories in the <b>Good</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> range.
Saturday evening to early Sunday morning	Stronger winds compared to the previous night, expect AQIs from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Very Unhealthy</b> or higher at times. Winds will die down after 9 AM, improving air quality.

South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

## If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do not use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads.

For more information, see the **EPA Guide for Particle Pollution (PDF)**.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:X">X</a> (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.