

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 14, 2025

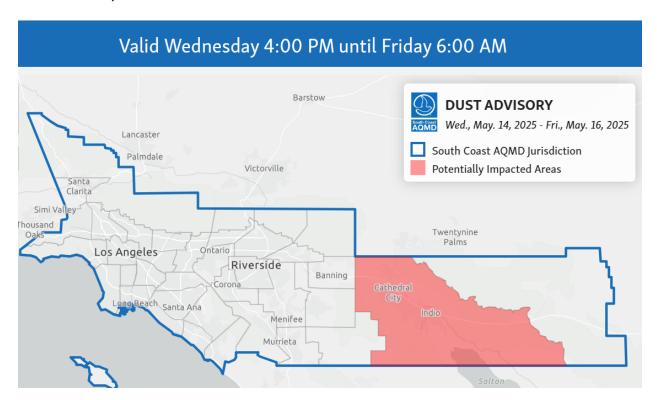
MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Rainbow Yeung, (909) 396-3373, Cell: (909) 967-2477

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory Due to High Winds in the Coachella Valley

Valid until Friday 6:00 AM



Current Conditions

• Since Tuesday morning, the Air Quality Index (AQI) in the Coachella Valley ranged from **Good** to **Hazardous**, mainly due to windblown dust (PM10).

Wind gusts up to 57 mph were measured in the Northwestern Coachella Valley on Tuesday.

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Winds from the west with gusts up to 45 mph are predicted.
- 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 Unhealthy or higher air quality index (AQI) categories in the Coachella Valley.
- Expect elevated PM10 levels at times through early Friday morning, especially in the northwestern part of the valley.
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions.

Detailed Forecast

Wednesday evening to Thursday morning	Wind gusts are expected to remain strong overnight. AQI categories are predicted to range from Moderate to Unhealthy or higher at times, with the highest AQI expected in the northwestern Coachella Valley.
Thursday daytime	Wind gusts are expected to subside in the morning and PM10 levels are predicted to improve temporarily. Expect AQI categories in the Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups range.
Thursday evening to early Friday morning	Similar to the previous night, expect AQIs from Moderate to Unhealthy or higher at times. Winds will die down after dawn, 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 www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.