



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 3, 2026

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South Coast AQMD Issues Violations to Irvine Landfill for Odors Impacting Nearby Communities

DIAMOND BAR – The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has issued three Notices of Violation (NOVs) to Orange County Waste and Recycling’s Frank R. Bowerman Landfill (Bowerman) in Irvine, California, for odors that have impacted surrounding communities.

Since January 1, 2026, South Coast AQMD has received over 130 public complaints reporting rotten, sour, garbage-type odors in the area. Inspectors responded to the complaints, confirmed the odors with community members, and traced them back to operations at the landfill. As a result, three NOVs were issued on January 7, 25, and 26 for violations of the public nuisance rules.

South Coast AQMD Rule 402 and California Health & Safety Code Section 41700 prohibit emissions that cause injury, nuisance, or annoyance to a significant number of people or the public.

Bowerman Landfill is a Class III municipal solid waste landfill located at 11002 Bee Canyon Access Road and is one of the largest landfills in California. The facility accepts commercial municipal solid waste from approved haulers and does not allow public disposal.

Bowerman Landfill is subject to regular inspections by CalRecycle, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and South Coast AQMD to ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

NOVs can result in civil penalties. In some cases, facilities may take voluntary actions to reduce emissions or, otherwise, prevent future violations. If no settlement is reached, a civil lawsuit may be filed in superior court.

Report Air Quality Concerns: Members of the public can report odors, dust, smoke, or other air quality issues by:

- Calling 1-800-CUT-SMOG (288-7664)
- Filing a report via the [online complaint portal](https://www.aqmd.gov/online-complaint-portal) at www.aqmd.gov; or
- Using the [South Coast AQMD mobile app](#).

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](#).

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