



Advisor

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GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES LANDMARK AGREEMENT WITH PORTS OF LONG BEACH AND LOS ANGELES



South Coast AQMD's Governing Board has approved a landmark Cooperative Agreement with the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles that sets the foundation for accelerating the transition to zero-emission infrastructure across the nation's largest port complex.

The enforceable agreement requires the ports to develop and implement comprehensive plans for charging and fueling infrastructure, supporting the move toward cleaner operations for trucks, trains, cargo handling equipment, harbor craft, and ocean-going vessels. South Coast AQMD will oversee implementation and verify progress through annual reporting and updates to the Governing Board.

The agreement includes enforceable measures such as penalties for noncompliance, ranging from \$50,000 to \$200,000 per default. Funds collected through these penalties will be directed to projects benefiting communities near the ports.

Since 2022, South Coast AQMD has engaged stakeholders through nearly 30 public meetings, including Board and committee meetings, community sessions, and office hours. Public feedback played a key role in shaping the final agreement—strengthening enforcement, doubling penalties, and establishing a transparent process for developing and updating infrastructure plans.

Under the terms of the agreement:

- The Ports will prepare infrastructure plans in **three phases**, each outlining key milestones, targets, and opportunities for public input.
- South Coast AQMD will provide **annual oversight and reporting** to ensure accountability and transparency.
- The Cooperative Agreement includes a **45-day exit clause**, allowing any party to withdraw if the agreement is no longer working as intended.

The Governing Board also adopted a resolution to pause rulemaking for five years, allowing time for infrastructure planning and implementation, while preserving South Coast AQMD's authority to resume rulemaking if the agreement is terminated early.

The Cooperative Agreement has been approved by each Port's Board of Harbor Commissioners and the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, and is now fully executed.

This collaborative effort represents a major step forward in achieving cleaner air, healthier communities, and a sustainable goods movement system that supports both environmental and economic progress.

For more information, visit:
www.aqmd.gov/portsagreement.

ADVANCING DUST SOLUTIONS IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

South Coast AQMD continues to invest in comprehensive strategies to better understand, monitor, and reduce dust pollution across the Coachella Valley. These efforts include new research initiatives, expanded monitoring tools, on-the-ground mitigation work, and insights gathered during the recent Coachella Valley Dust Summit.



In partnership with Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, South Coast AQMD hosted the [Coachella Valley Dust Summit](#) in Palm Desert on November 6, 2025. The event brought together scientists, government agencies, community leaders, businesses, and residents to discuss persistent dust challenges in the region and their impacts on air quality, public health, and quality of life.

South Coast AQMD, along with experts from the California Air Resources Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Riverside University Health System Department of Public Health, the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission, and UC Riverside shared data on dust sources, health impacts, and new mitigation strategies. Community members also highlighted how dust affects daily life across the region. The Coachella Valley has long faced dust pollution (particulate matter - PM10) driven by high winds and desert conditions.



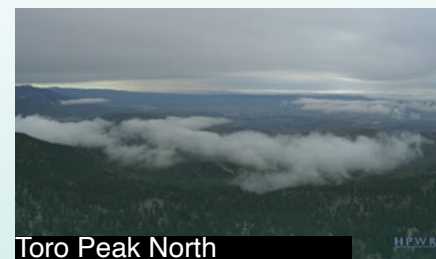
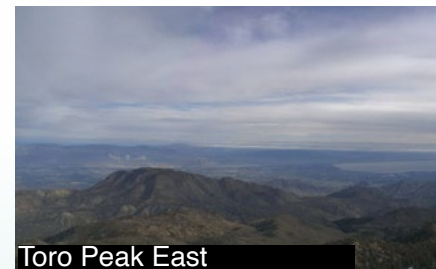
A major focus of the Summit was a three-part dust-reduction plan approved by the Governing Board in October, with an initial funding allocation of \$750,000 and the potential for up to \$3.1 million to support implementation.

The plan will:

- Support scientific research led by UC Riverside and UC San Diego/Scripps to identify and prioritize major dust sources to focus on future mitigation efforts;
- Develop targeted strategies to determine the most effective dust-control measures by location and dust type; and
- Implement dust-mitigation projects in the highest-emitting areas through future funding opportunities.



South Coast AQMD has also significantly expanded dust monitoring since 2023. A [camera has been installed in San Jacinto State Park](#) to track dust movement in the northwestern valley. A second camera, operated by UC San Diego, as part of the Alert California and HPWREN* network, is located on Toro Peak overlooking the area from Indio to the north Salton Sea shore. A third camera is planned for the eastern portion of the valley to expand dust tracking data. In parallel, South Coast AQMD is working with UC Riverside to guide targeted dust-mitigation actions using field measurements, satellite analysis, and computer modeling. The expanding camera network will strengthen these efforts and help inform more precise strategies to reduce dust emissions and improve regional air quality.



Other near-term efforts include [extended street-sweeping operations](#) with CVAG to reduce blowsand and roadway dust, enhanced enforcement of dust-control rules, and road-paving projects funded through the [AB 617 program](#).

For more information on dust-mitigation efforts in the Coachella Valley, including real-time monitoring images, visit www.aqmd.gov/cvcameras.

*High Performance Wireless Research and Education Network

\$78 MILLION APPROVED TO REPLACE 286 POLLUTING SCHOOL BUSES WITH ZERO-EMISSION MODELS

South Coast AQMD's Governing Board has approved up to \$78.2 million to replace 286 older, high-polluting school buses with zero-emission models and to install supporting charging infrastructure throughout the region.

This initiative will support 35 public school districts across the South Coast Air Basin, delivering cleaner air to thousands of students and communities. The new zero-emission buses will be distributed as follows: 124 in Los Angeles County, 50 in Orange County, 60 in Riverside County, and 52 in San Bernardino County.

The new buses are expected to reduce harmful emissions by approximately 46.3 tons of nitrogen oxides and 3.5 tons of particulate matter each year, delivering significant public health benefits, particularly for children who are most vulnerable to pollution.

More than 87 percent of the buses will serve overburdened communities, ensuring that the benefits of cleaner transportation reach those most impacted by air pollution.

Delivery and deployment of the buses are anticipated to begin in mid-2026, following vehicle procurement and infrastructure installation.

Funding is provided through a combination of clean air programs, including the Carl Moyer Program, the CARE4Kids Program, and other state and local sources. By leveraging multiple funding streams, South Coast AQMD continues to accelerate the region's transition to zero-emission transportation.

Since launching the Lower-Emission School Bus Program in 2001, South Coast AQMD has awarded nearly \$372 million to help school districts replace or retrofit diesel buses. To date, the program has replaced more than 1,900 diesel buses with alternative-fuel or zero-emission models and retrofitted 3,400 buses with particulate matter traps—ensuring that students across Southern California ride in some of the cleanest school buses in the nation.

The full list of participating school districts can be found [here](#).



INVEST CLEAN EXPANDS WITH NEW \$50 MILLION LAST-MILE FREIGHT REBATE PROGRAM

South Coast AQMD, in partnership with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), has launched a new \$50 million Last Mile Freight Program as part of the INVEST CLEAN* initiative. This funding, provided through a sub-award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will support the deployment of Class 4 and Class 5 battery-electric commercial vehicles for last-mile delivery fleets operating across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties.

Qualified fleet owners and operators—including last-mile delivery providers, logistics companies, and business-to-business distributors—can receive up to \$67,000 per vehicle toward the purchase or conversion of eligible diesel trucks. The program allows for both “cash-for-replacement” (replacing older diesel trucks) and vehicle conversion options.

Applications are currently open through January 30, 2026 (with the possibility of a second round in July 2026 if funds remain). SCAG will give priority to projects that are “implementation-ready,” deliver strong emissions benefits, and ensure equitable geographic distribution across the region.

(Another INVEST CLEAN funding program, the Charging Infrastructure Incentive Program, also has an application deadline of January 30.)

This new Last Mile Freight Program rebate program builds on SCAG's earlier Phase 1 efforts, which deployed \$16.75 million (via Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee) to support 22 zero- and near-zero-emission freight projects. By scaling up clean medium-duty freight operations, this investment strengthens the region's goods movement network while cutting harmful emissions and advancing air quality goals.

**This project has been funded wholly or in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement #5E97T15501 to the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, nor does U.S. Environmental Protection Agency endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document, as well as any images, video, text, or other content created by generative artificial intelligence tools, nor does any such content necessarily reflect the views and policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

GO ZERO PROGRAM GAINS MOMENTUM, BRINGING CLEAN HEATING AND COOLING TO MORE RESIDENCES

Launched in September 2025, South Coast AQMD's GO ZERO Pilot Incentive Program is a \$21 million initiative helping residents switch to clean, zero-emission heat pump systems. The program provides rebates for space and water heating appliances, installer training, and outreach support. Heat pumps offer a cleaner, more efficient way to heat and cool homes and heat water—using up to three times less energy than conventional systems.

The program has seen strong interest—multifamily funding is fully reserved for the pilot phase and over 1,000 single family homes have replaced natural gas furnaces with heat pumps. Substantial funds remain available for single-family homes and small businesses, with rebates ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 per heat pump. At least 75 percent of funding is reserved for overburdened communities.

As of November 7, 2025, the definition of “small business” has been expanded to reach more participants. Eligible small businesses now include independently owned and operated businesses that meet at least one of the following:

- 100 or fewer employees.
- Annual gross receipts of \$5 million or less.
- Nonprofits exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3).

Community outreach has been a cornerstone of the program's success, including engagement at local events and a recent interview with Little Saigon TV to connect residents with application assistance.



To support workforce development, GO ZERO has hosted four contractor training sessions on installing and maintaining heat pump systems, with more planned soon.

Visit www.aqmd.gov/gozero for current funding status, application guides, and full program details. To receive updates, sign up for our eNewsletter at www.aqmd.gov/sign-up and check the GO ZERO box.

ENERGIZING THE FUTURE: NFI'S ONTARIO DEPOT POWERS 90 ELECTRIC TRUCKS DAILY

NFI Industries (NFI), a partner in the Joint Electric Truck Scaling Initiative (JETSI), has fully energized its battery-electric truck (BET) fleet depot in Ontario, California—a major milestone in advancing zero-emission freight. The depot can charge up to 90 Class 8 BETs daily through 38 fast chargers installed by Electrify America, with Southern California Edison (SCE) providing utility support.

The site features 1 megawatt of solar power and nearly 8 megawatt-hour of on-site battery storage, forming one of the largest microgrids in the South Coast Air Basin. This renewable energy setup reduces peak-time utility demand, improves energy resiliency, and ensures operational reliability during grid outages. NFI's fleet of Freightliner and Volvo BETs serves drayage and regional haul routes between the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, nearby rail yards, and Inland Empire warehouses. Each truck typically completes two port trips per day, covering around 200 miles before recharging.



JETSI is jointly funded by the California Air Resources Board and the California Energy Commission, with support from South Coast AQMD, the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee, the Port of Long Beach, and SCE.

Of the 90 BETs at the Ontario depot, 50 were deployed through JETSI. Together, they support California's clean transportation goals by offsetting roughly 4,400 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually and displacing more than 2.7 million gallons of diesel fuel over five years. NFI's Ontario depot demonstrates the power of collaboration in accelerating sustainable freight and provides a model for large-scale electrification in the region.

NEW CHARGE-OPT TOOL HELPS MAP THE PATH TO ELECTRIC TRUCKS

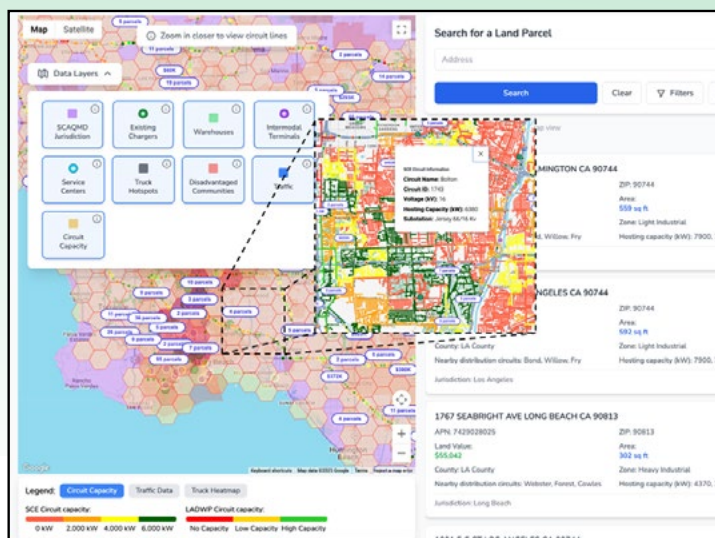
To support the transition of heavy-duty trucks to battery-electric technologies, researchers at UC Riverside and AmpTrans, Inc. are developing a new planning tool called CHARGE-OPT. Co-funded by South Coast AQMD's Clean Fuels Program, CHARGE-OPT offers tailored modules for fleet operators, charging-station developers, utility providers, and public agencies. Built on a shared foundation of transportation, policy, charging, and power-system data, the tool uses optimization algorithms to guide effective electrification strategies.

The first two modules—Fleet and Infrastructure—are now available to the public within the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction at: www.amptrans.net/southcoast.

The Fleet Module allows users to compare deployment scenarios by mapping truck routes, suggesting charging options based on public charging availability and grid capacity, and estimating operating costs using truck models and available incentives. Its goal is to help fleets identify efficient and cost-effective pathways to adopt battery-electric trucks.

The Infrastructure Module helps developers identify optimal locations for public charging stations. It combines truck-traffic data with information on existing chargers, truck stops,

warehouses, and intermodal facilities, along with regularly updated grid-capacity data from utilities. Interactive maps make it easy to visualize key data and pinpoint promising sites for new charging infrastructure.



Additional modules for utility providers and public agencies are under development. These will support broader system planning—helping utilities assess cost-effective grid upgrades and enabling agencies to conduct regional analyses. Both are scheduled for release before this summer.

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS ADVANCE CLEAN TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY INNOVATION

Two local initiatives are helping expand clean transportation and advance innovative, low-emission community projects through support from South Coast AQMD's [AB 2766 Subvention Program](#) and the [Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee](#) (MSRC).

On November 3, 2025, the City of Fontana celebrated the grand opening of Segment Two of the San Sevaine Trail—an important milestone for active transportation in the Inland Empire. The 1.25-mile extension links Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga



along the Etiwanda Creek Flood Control Channel and was supported with \$500,000 in MSRC Clean Transportation Funding. The project added new safety features, including solar lighting and chain-link fencing, and was made possible through collaboration among the Cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga, the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. By improving safe routes for walking and biking, the trail encourages residents to choose cleaner, more sustainable ways to travel, helping reduce emissions in surrounding neighborhoods. The MSRC continues to support similar efforts through local partnerships, including its recent collaboration with SBCTA

on the Highland-Redlands Regional Connector to enhance pedestrian and cyclist access along Orange Street.

South Coast AQMD is also supporting local innovation in La Cañada Flintridge, where the city is advancing its efforts to electrify its Rose Parade float. Through the agency's AB 2766 Subvention Program, the city authorized the use of \$81,930 in motor vehicle funds to help purchase electric drivetrain motor components for its 2027 entry. Building on earlier steps to introduce electric power to its 2025 float, this investment will further reduce the use of combustion engines and support cleaner parade operations at one of the region's most celebrated community events.



CHECK
BEFORE
YOU
BURN

CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN SEASON CONTINUES

South Coast AQMD's annual Check Before You Burn program is in effect, reminding residents to refrain from indoor and outdoor wood burning on days when a No-Burn Day is declared.

A No-Burn Day is a 24-hour ban on residential wood burning, including fireplaces, stoves, and outdoor fire pits, in the South Coast Air Basin. These temporary restrictions are called when pollution levels are expected to be high due to air emissions and stagnant weather conditions, helping prevent unhealthy air quality caused by fine particulate pollution.

Exemptions apply for mountain communities above 3,000 feet in elevation, the Coachella Valley and High Desert, homes that rely on wood as a sole source of heat, and those without natural gas service. Gas fireplaces are also exempt.

Residents can stay informed and Check Before You Burn in several ways:

- Email Alerts: Sign up to receive [Air Alerts](#) and be notified when a No-Burn Day is issued in your area.
- Check Before You Burn Map: Visit our website for [daily forecast](#) information.
- Toll-Free Line: Call 866-966-3293 for daily updates.
- Web Resources: Visit www.aqmd.gov/cbyb for details.
- Mobile App: Download the South Coast AQMD [app](#) to check local air quality.
- Social Media: Follow South Coast AQMD on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly Twitter), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for announcements.

Wood smoke contains PM2.5, which can irritate the eyes and throat, aggravate asthma, and trigger respiratory or cardiovascular issues. Long-term exposure can increase the risk of strokes, heart attacks, and certain cancers. Children, older adults, people with lung or heart conditions, and those who spend significant time outdoors are especially vulnerable. Burning wood impacts air quality both indoors and in nearby neighborhoods.

For more information, visit www.aqmd.gov/cbyb.

2026

A LOOK AHEAD AT 2026 UPCOMING RULE ACTIVITY FROM SOUTH COAST AQMD

The 2026 South Coast AQMD rule calendar has planned over two dozen rule amendments and adoptions in the upcoming year. These rules will assist in implementing control measures in the 2016 and 2022 Air Quality Management Plans, along with the 2024 PM Plan to reduce emissions to attain state and federal air quality standards, reduce health risks or exposures from air toxics, and fulfill the air quality objectives approved in the Assembly Bill 617 Community Emission Reduction Plans, as well as resolve or clarify rule provisions.

Upcoming rule activity includes:

PM Reduction Activities – strengthen requirements from operations at aggregate facilities to reduce particulate matter emissions affecting surrounding neighborhoods; establish requirements when operating air curtain incinerators from forestry and agricultural waste management operations.

Further Control on Carcinogens – update toxic rules to provide Volatile Organic Compound limit relief during reformulation of aerospace, wood, marine coatings, lubricants, and solvent degreasers to remove pCBtF and tBAC; and further update toxic rules controlling hexavalent chromium from metal heating operations as well as establish requirements for commodity fumigation operations.

Update List of Toxic Air Contaminants – include new contaminants identified by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

New Source Review - revise provisions to address facilities that are transitioning from RECLAIM as well as consideration of options for sources of offsets for composting and renewable natural gas operations.

Monitoring – seeking to require fenceline monitoring of metal toxic air contaminants at metal shredding facilities and public notification when emissions exceed certain thresholds; establish requirements to conduct monitoring and sampling for those facilities identified as significant high-risk level for a gaseous toxic air contaminant. For more information, please check the “Rule and Control Measure Forecast” item listed in each month’s [Governing Board agenda](#).



COMMUNITY VOICES COME TOGETHER AT SECOND ANNUAL AB 617 ALL CSC EVENT

South Coast AQMD hosted the 2nd Annual AB 617 All Community Steering Committee (CSC) Event on Saturday, October 25, 2025, bringing together CSC members from all six AB 617 communities for a day of collaboration and learning. The event created an energizing space for community members to connect, share insights, and discuss how current issues are shaping local air quality.

The program featured panel discussions, a film screening, a keynote message, and a resource fair with exhibits highlighting community air monitoring, emission-reduction projects, grant and incentive opportunities, and updates on AB 617 funding and legislative efforts.

AB 617 is a community-based program that brings together residents, local businesses, health and environmental organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders to form Community Steering Committees (CSCs). These CSCs work together to develop and implement plans to help reduce air pollution in communities. These plans are known as Community Emission Reduction Plans (CERPs) and Community Air Monitoring Plans (CAMPs). CERPs focus on community-identified air quality priorities while CAMPs provide localized strategies for air quality monitoring.

All six communities within South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction are currently in the implementation phase of their CERPs and CAMPs.

South Coast AQMD continues to hold quarterly meetings with CSC, and co-lead organizations, and other interested parties to provide updates on the progress of CERP and CAMP implementation. For more information on the AB 617 Program or meeting schedules, visit www.aqmd.gov/ab617.

- Upcoming AB 617 Community Meetings:
- Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV)
 - Thursday, January 15, 2026, 5-7 p.m.
- Southeast Los Angeles (SELA)
 - Thursday, January 29, 2026, 4-6 p.m.
- San Bernardino, Muscoy (SBM)
 - Thursday, February 12, 2026, 6-8 p.m.
- East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce (ELABHWC) – Thursday, February 26, 2026, 4-6 p.m.
- South Los Angeles (SLA)
 - Thursday, March 12, 2026, 4-6 p.m.
- Wilmington, Carson West Long Beach (WCWLW) – Thursday, March 26, 2026, 2-4 p.m.

BUILDING BRIDGES: YLAC MEMBER LEADS FIRST AB 617 COMMUNITY TOUR

South Coast AQMD kicked off its pilot Community Engagement Tour on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, joining Youth Leadership Advisory Council (YLAC) member Jordan Salcido for a neighborhood tour in the Whittier area. The effort reflects a growing emphasis on building in-person connections within communities affected by air quality challenges.

The visit centered on gaining first-hand insight into the lived experiences of residents in Salcido's community. Salcido—who works with coalitions in Whittier, La Puente, and Hacienda Heights—expressed appreciation for the agency's commitment to learning directly from community members. "It meant a lot to have folks from the agency come out and learn about the history and challenges our community faces and highlight the important work taking place on the ground. I look forward to seeing how this opens more channels of communication and ongoing discussions regarding environmental justice and the role South Coast AQMD plays in shaping more healthy, vibrant and thriving communities," she said.

During the half-day tour, the outreach team visited key locations to better understand local air quality concerns and the community work underway to address them.

This pilot initiative is expected to expand in 2026, with a goal of engaging at least four YLAC members each year. By spending time directly in the neighborhoods they serve, South Coast AQMD aims to strengthen relationships,



elevate local voices, and inform more responsive air quality strategies. The tour represents a meaningful step in bridging institutional knowledge with community realities and reinforces the agency's commitment to inclusive and informed air quality management.

NEW WILMINGTON AIR MONITORING PROJECT TAKES A CLOSER LOOK AT FINE PARTICLE POLLUTION

A new air monitoring project is underway in Wilmington to take a closer look at fine particulate matter, also known as PM_{2.5}. The three-year study includes one full year of measurements followed by data review and analysis. The air measurements officially began on October 1, 2025, and the project is funded through a U.S. EPA grant under the American Rescue Plan with some resources leveraged from the AB 617 program as part of the Community Emission Reduction Plans and Community Air Monitoring Plans for the Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach (WCWL) community. The goal is to better understand the composition and sources of PM_{2.5} in this community—home to major oil refineries, oil fields, heavy truck traffic, and the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.



The new advanced air monitoring instruments installed at the Wilmington air monitoring site continuously measure the size and chemical makeup of PM_{2.5} particles. These high-resolution measurements will provide valuable insights into how local emission sources influence particulate pollution, particularly from port activities, refineries, and oil production operations.

This monitoring effort complements the Atmospheric Science and Chemistry Measurement Network (ASCENT), a nationwide 12-site research network (including two in the South Coast Air Basin) that characterizes aerosol composition and properties. By using the same suite of instruments as ASCENT sites, Wilmington's data will be directly comparable to other regions, helping scientists better understand PM_{2.5} spatial patterns, secondary PM formation mechanisms, and atmospheric aging processes across the South Coast Air Basin.

This study will also support ongoing clean air efforts through California's AB 617 Community Air Program in the WCWL community. The enhanced PM_{2.5} data will help inform and/or support targeted, science-based strategies to reduce PM_{2.5} exposure and improve public health that were developed by the Community Steering Committee of the WCWL community.

Ultimately, this project aims to increase community awareness of local air quality while strengthening the foundation for effective emission reduction policies. Lessons learned from this study may also benefit other coastal communities near major ports facing similar air quality challenges.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR A CLEANER, GREENER 2026!

The new year is here, so it's time to set and commit to New Year's Resolutions! South Coast AQMD encourages you to add a few simple ways you can help reduce air pollution to your resolutions.



Avoid Burning Wood in Your Home

Wood burning contributes to particulate air pollution and can aggravate respiratory conditions. Improve your health and reduce PM_{2.5} emissions by switching to more eco-friendly methods of heating your home such as a gas fireplace or stove.



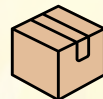
Upgrade to Zero-emission Heat Pumps

South Coast AQMD's GO ZERO Pilot Incentive Program helps residents and businesses switch to zero-emission heat pump systems for space and water heating. Heat pumps use up to three times less energy than conventional systems, providing a healthier, more efficient way to heat and cool your home.



Take Public Transportation and Rideshare

More people on the buses and trains means fewer cars on the road. Coordinate with coworkers or fellow parents of school-age children to arrange carpools. If taking an Uber or Lyft, opt for a rideshare trip instead of traveling alone!



Shop Smart

Buy locally grown produce and locally made products whenever possible. When ordering items online, consolidate packages to reduce shipping materials and transportation emissions.



Recycle, Reduce, Reuse!

Increase physical activity while reducing carbon emissions. Incorporate a daily stroll or bike trip in completing quick errands such as mailing a letter or picking up prescriptions.



Walk or Ride a Bike to Get Things Done

If you're a business owner or know local businesses, promote sustainable practices like reducing single-use plastics, adopting green shipping methods, or using energy-efficient lighting. Supporting green businesses creates a ripple effect that benefits air quality and sustainability.



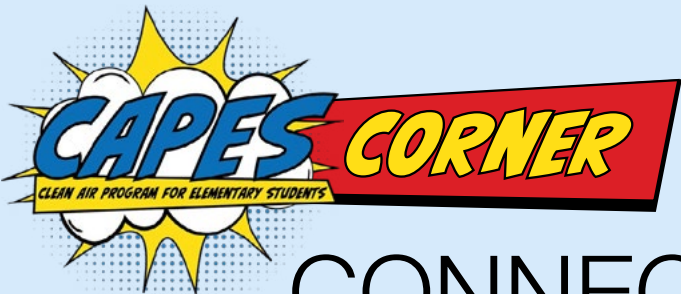
Upgrade Your Home with Green Energy

Planning on making home improvements this year? Take the opportunity to install solar panels, request green power from your utility, or join a community choice aggregator.



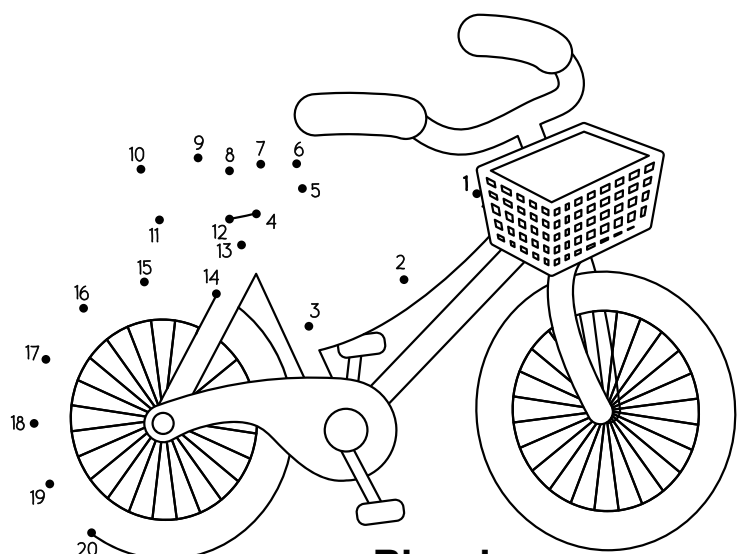
Switch to a More Efficient Vehicle

If you're thinking about upgrading your car this year, explore cleaner options such as hybrid, near-zero, or zero-emission models. Automakers are offering more choices for different budgets, making it easier to reduce emissions and contribute to cleaner air in your community.

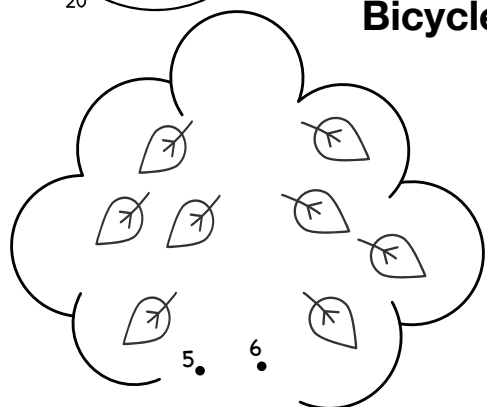
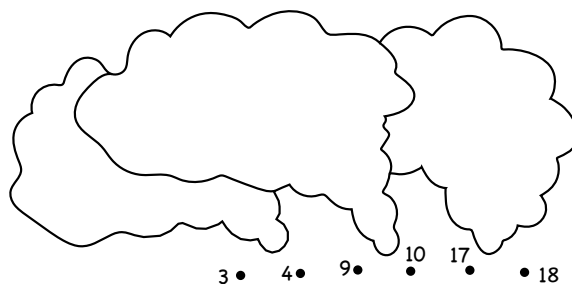


CONNECT THE DOTS!

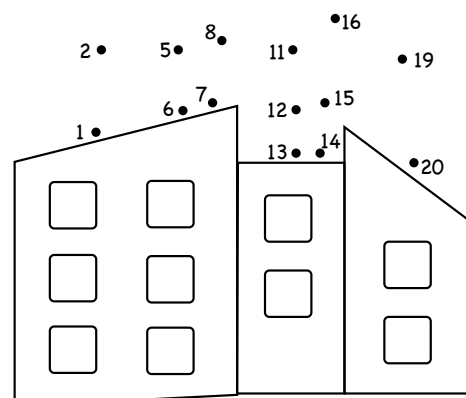
Air pollution is when the air gets dirty from things like smoke, chemicals, or tiny particles that we can't always see. When the air gets polluted, it can affect the health of people, animals, and plants. Some sources of air pollution include factories, trains, and airplanes. Connect the dots to reveal the four images below. Once you are finished revealing the images, color in the ones that **do not** create air pollution.



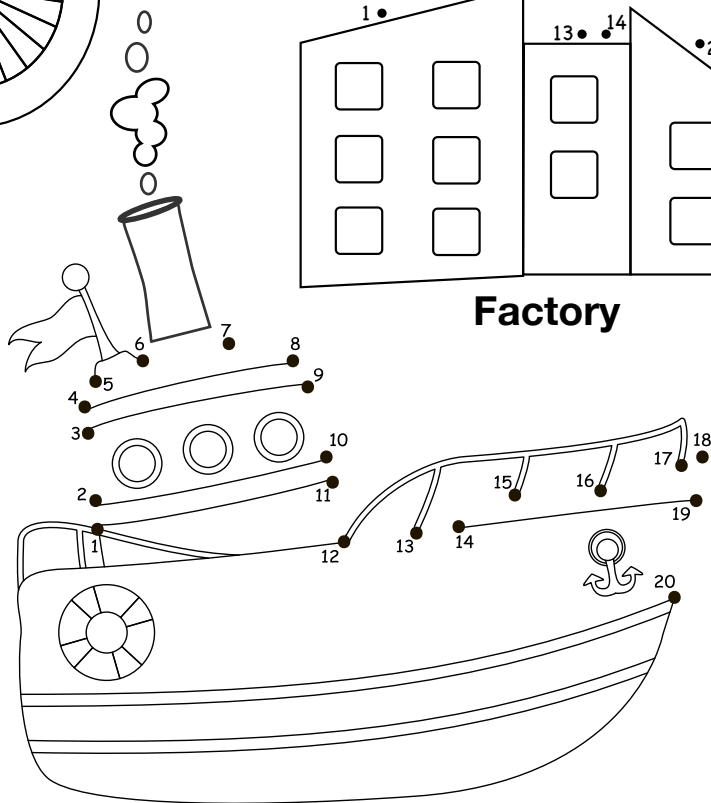
Bicycle



Tree



Factory



Ship



RULE UPDATE

PR = Proposed Rule PAR = Proposed Amended Rule/Regulation

JANUARY

PAR 463: Organic Liquid Storage

Proposed Amended Rule 463 will clarify the tank types subject to periodic OGI inspections and address control efficiency requirements for small above-ground gasoline storage tanks.

Contact: Michael Morris at mmorris@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3282

PAR 1111: Reduction of NOx Emissions from Natural-Gas-Fired, Fan-Type Central Furnaces

Proposed Amended Rule 1111 will provide additional time for an existing compliance option for mobile home furnaces.

Contact: Heather Farr at hfarr@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3672

PAR 1118: Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares

Proposed Amended Rule 1118 seeks to make administrative changes and clarify flare notification requirements.

Contact: Heather Farr at hfarr@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3672

The following proposed amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearings at upcoming Governing Board meetings in 2026. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit South Coast AQMD's website at www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes, check the Rule and Control Measure Forecast item on the most recent Governing Board meeting agenda, or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500. Copies of South Coast AQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the website at www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules-scaqmd-rule-book or obtained from the Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039.

DO ONE THING FOR CLEAN AIR

DOWNLOAD

SOUTH COAST AQMD'S MOBILE APP

TODAY!

A ONE-STOP APP FOR

- Real-time Air Quality Alerts
- Report a Complaint
- Alternative Fuel Locations
- Weather



ZERO-EMISSION
SPACE AND WATER HEATING
INCENTIVE PROGRAM



www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD



Rebates for your small business. Cleaner air for all.

Small Business Heat Pump Rebate

\$4,000 per electric heat pump water heater

- ENERGY STAR® certified.
- Replacing natural gas or propane water heating system.

Program Eligibility

- Located within South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction.
- Independently owned/controlled and operated.
- Meet at least one of the following: 100 or fewer employees, total gross annual receipts of \$5 million or less, or a non-profit organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3).

APPLY TODAY!

GOZEROSmallbusiness.com
844.437.0481



Required Documents

- 1 Completed rebate application
- 2 Installer's invoice, which must include itemized costs and heat pump information
- 3 IRS Form W9 completed by the person or entity that is receiving the rebate
- 4 Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization form (optional) for direct deposit

Apply Online

For fastest processing, submit your application at:
GOZEROSmallbusiness.com

You may also print all documents and submit via email to GOZEROSmallbusiness@willdan.com or mail to Willdan, Attn: SCAQMD GO ZERO Incentive Program 2401E Katella Ave, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92806.

Terms and conditions apply. For more information, please visit: GOZEROSmallbusiness.com. 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. South Coast AQMD's mission is to clean the air and protect the health of all residents in the South Coast Air Basin through practical and innovative strategies. Willdan was selected to implement this program through a competitive bidding process. To learn more about Willdan, please visit willdan.com.



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**South Coast
Air Quality Management District**

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UPCOMING RULE COMPLIANCE PROMOTION CLASSES

Classes are conducted online via Zoom. Preregistration is required. Class schedules are subject to change.

Rule 403 – Dust Control in the South Coast Air Basin Training

Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-403-403-1-fugitive-dust>. To register, e-mail dustcontrol@aqmd.gov or fax request to (909) 396-2608.

Rule 403 & 403.1: Dust Control in the Coachella Valley Training

Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-403-403-1-fugitive-dust> for class and registration information. To register, email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 461: Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Training

Daily Maintenance Inspection –
Registration Fee: \$210.65
• Wednesday, March 4, 2026
• Wednesday, June 3, 2026
• Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Periodic Compliance Inspection –
Registration Fee: \$230.53
• Wednesday, March 11, 2026
• Wednesday, June 10, 2026
• Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Vapor Recovery System Tester Orientation –
Registration Fee: \$219.17

- Wednesday, March 18, 2026
- Wednesday, June 17, 2026
- Wednesday, August 5, 2026
- Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/compliance/gasoline-dispensing2/rule-461-classes> for class and registration information. Call Rule 461 Assistance at (909) 396-3546 or email Rule461assistance@aqmd.gov for more information.

Rule 1403 – Asbestos Demolition and Renovation Compliance Training

- February 11, 2026
- April 8, 2026

This class starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. and will be conducted in person at Diamond Bar HQ. The fee is \$114.63 per person, except as noted.
Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-1403-asbestos-demolition> to register or call the Asbestos Hotline at (909) 396-2336 for more information.

Rule 1469: Hexavalent Chromium Training Certification

- No classes will be held in 2025. Classes will be offered in 2026

Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-1469-hexavalent-chromium> or call (909) 396-2338 for more information.

Rule 2202 - Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) Training

- January 13 and 15, 2026
- January 27 and 29, 2026
- February 10 and 12, 2026
- February 24 and 26, 2026
- March 10 and 12, 2026
- March 24 and 26, 2026

Each class is two days in length (Tuesday and Thursday). Classes are held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration fee is \$230.88 per person. Enrollment is limited. Early registration is recommended.

For more information, contact the ETC Coordinator at (909) 396-2777, or visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/training-2202-etc>. To register, e-mail etctraining@aqmd.gov or call (909) 396-2777.

Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by South Coast Air Quality Management District's Legislative, Public Affairs and Media Office. South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. *South Coast AQMD does not endorse nor warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.*

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