



Two Ports Approve Clean Air Action Plan

On November 20th, the governing boards of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach voted to approve the landmark San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan, the most comprehensive strategy to cut air pollution and reduce health risks ever produced for a global seaport complex. The ports combined are the largest source of air pollution in Southern California. It would be impossible to reach the mandated clean air standards without aggressive clean-up at the ports.

The five-year Clean Air Action Plan was created with the

cooperation and participation of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, California Air Resources Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Clean Air Action Plan addresses all port-related emission sources - ships, trains, trucks, terminal equipment and harbor craft - to significantly reduce health risks posed by air pollution.

The Plan includes hundreds of millions of dollars of investments by the two ports for air quality programs, broader use of ship-to-shore electricity at the ports within five years and, a proposal to use pollution-based impact fees so that polluters pay their part to improve air quality.

The Plan aims to cut diesel-related particulate matter (PM) pollution by more than 47 percent and smog forming nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by more than 45 percent within the next five years, resulting in emissions that will be below 2001 levels. Measures under the Plan also will result in reductions of sulfur oxides (SOx) by more than 52 percent. NOx is a precursor of smog; SOx contributes to particulate matter; and PM has been shown to lead to health problems.

For more information, contact Peter Greenwald at (909) 396-2111

Voters Approve \$1.2 Billion State Air Quality Bond Measure

In November, voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 1B, which will provide more than \$19 billion through the sale of general obligation bonds. The funds from the bond sales are slated for transportation programs statewide, including \$1.2 billion to reduce air pollution by upgrading outdated port equipment and replacing older, high-polluting school buses. In addition, the bond identifies more than \$4 billion for public transit projects such as commuter rail systems, which will link many housing developments with nearby transportation, thus reducing air pollution. This act also includes funding to upgrade freeways to reduce congestion, expand public transit, and complete the state's network of car pool lanes; measures that will further reduce air pollution.

Companion Proposition 1C, which also passed, will emphasize smart growth and transit-oriented development measures that will further reduce air pollution.

The next steps are for the California Transportation Commission to adopt the Corridor Mobility Improvement Program, a \$4.5 billion part of the Proposition 1B transportation bond, by March 1, 2007 and for transportation and air quality agencies to submit project nominations to the Commission by January 16, 2007.

For more information, contact William Sanchez at (909) 396-3203.

Project Will Demonstrate Clean Battery Alternative to Emissions from Diesel Idling

At its December 1 meeting, AQMD's Governing Board approved a \$250,000 contract with International Truck and Engine Corporation to design and demonstrate an advanced idle-reduction technology for heavy-duty diesel-powered sleeper trucks.

Long-haul truckers typically idle their diesel engines to maintain comfortable temperatures as they sleep or rest in the sleeper cab, keep the engine warm to prevent cold-start problems, and run small on-board

accessories. Unfortunately, diesel engine idling produces significant emissions of smog-forming and toxic pollutants. CARB estimates that about 76,000 sleeper trucks operate in California at any given time, each idling between 1,800 and 2,400 hours per year.

The project will assess the performance of an advanced battery-powered auxiliary power unit (APU) to power the truck cabin rather than running the main engine or a diesel-fueled APU.

Other partners for the \$575,000 project include the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Wal-Mart. For more information, contact Matt Miyasato at (909) 396-3249.



Cleaning the air
that we breathe...



Volume 14
Number 1
January 2007

AQMD to Demonstrate Air Filters in Three Southland Schools

In December, the AQMD Governing Board awarded funding to install and demonstrate sophisticated air filters in classrooms at three elementary schools near the BP Arco refinery and other industrial areas and freeways in the Carson-Long Beach area.

The innovative pilot study will test the effectiveness of air filters at removing particulate matter and hydrocarbons from indoor air in classrooms at Hudson Elementary School in Long Beach and Dominguez and Del Amo elementary schools in Carson.

The one-year study will include the design and installation of three different air filter systems in classrooms at each school, air testing before and after installation, and development of a users' manual to ensure proper operation.

The air filters will help reduce exposure to hydrocarbon and particulate matter releases from area refineries and diesel trucks, as well as address community concern regarding air quality impacts at nearby schools.

The study is funded by AQMD's Rule 1173 mitigation fees, which allow oil refineries to pay a fee for hydrocarbon releases that exceed rule limits. Fees paid will be used for clean air projects in nearby communities. Since 2003, about \$1.4 million has been collected as a result of four releases at two refineries. For more information, contact Vicki White at (909) 396-3436.

Board Approves Improved Flare Notification Plan for South Bay Area

At its December meeting, the AQMD Governing Board was provided an update on the status of efforts to develop and implement an enhanced public notification requirements procedure when refinery flare events occur. Proposed actions in this regards, developed by AQMD staff and a working group consisting of community and industry representatives, include:

- Issuing an RFP not to exceed \$10,000 to design a survey of representative South Bay residents as the basis for developing a sub-regional flare event notification system;
- Developing a specific work plan to improve existing sub-regional notification systems through local Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) first-responder groups;
- Maintaining monitoring and sampling equipment at AQMD's Long Beach field office for timely dispatch on demand;
- Completing a comprehensive staff report of working group findings, survey results, and recommended sub-regional public notification system.

AQMD Rule 1118 requires that refineries and related facilities minimize flaring events and reduce criteria pollutant emissions. Flares are used to safely dispose of excess combustible gases during emergencies, startups and shutdowns, and to meet other operational and safety needs. Concerns about health impacts of flare emissions led local community representatives to request prompt notification of flare events and access to flare emissions data reported to AQMD.

For more information, contact Edwin Pupka at (909) 396-3332.

AQMD STAFF UPDATE

Cher Snyder

Cher Snyder has been promoted to Senior Enforcement Manager of the Industrial & Compliance Branch. This unit determines compliance of diverse industrial sources with air quality rules and regulations throughout AQMD's four-county jurisdiction. Cher joined AQMD in 1988 as a Public Information Specialist, then was promoted to Senior Staff Specialist, and most recently, served as an Air Quality & Compliance Supervisor. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Georgia and her J.D. from Western State University College of Law.

Danny Luong

Danny Luong has been promoted to Senior Enforcement Manager of the Compliance Assessment and Administration team. He joined the AQMD in February 1984 as an Assistant Air Quality Engineer, and traveled up the ranks, most recently as an Air Quality & Compliance Supervisor. Danny has a Master's degree in Engineering, Chemical Engineer from Cal Poly and is registered as a Professional Engineer in Chemical Engineering in California. He will be managing a diverse group including the Gasoline Dispensing, Regional Clean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM) Administrative Support, and the California Air Resources Board's Portable Equipment Registration Program teams.

William Sanchez

William Sanchez joined the AQMD in November 2006 as the Senior Public Affairs Manager. His duties include heading up the geographic outreach team and legislative programs. Prior to coming to the AQMD, he was Senior Consultant to Senator Martha Escutia and Principal Consultant to the Latino Caucus. He also served as a guest political commentator for two years at Univision Television, and served as a political campaign manager for 11 local, state and county offices. "All wins, no losses," he notes. He completed his undergraduate studies at UCI and his graduate work from UCLA's School of Law.



Cher Snyder

William Sanchez

Danny Luong

AQMD to Host International Asthma Conference in April

The AQMD is gearing up for its two-day conference, "Asthma Is a Small World ... International Conference on Asthma Impacts of Air Pollution," scheduled for April 26-27, 2007 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. This event will bring together many scientists, physicians, leading public health professionals, as well as elected officials, and political and policy individuals and community members from around the world.

The conference will feature sessions on:

- Pollution exposure and the development of asthma;
- Traffic emissions and respiratory disease;
- Air pollution and respiratory disease in children;
- Asthma and environmental tracking;
- The impact of goods movement on respiratory illness;
- Socioeconomic influences on respiratory disease;
- Initiatives and community approaches, policy and legislative approaches, and
- The global initiative for new guidelines for asthma management and prevention.

Elected officials, health care professionals, school officials, medical researchers and students are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Patrician Price at 909-396-2690 or e-mail AsthmaConference@aqmd.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

Asthma Is a Small World ... International Conference on Asthma Impacts of Air Pollution

April 26-27, 2007 - Disneyland Hotel
Anaheim, California USA



Email AsthmaConference@aqmd.gov or call 909-396-2432 / 1-800-CUT-SMOG for more information.

2007 Compliance Deadlines

The following is a reminder for AQMD rule compliance deadlines that occur during 2007. This is a reference AQMD provides annually through the AQMD Advisor and is subject to change. New rules and regulations may be adopted and current rules may be amended or rescinded throughout the year. Such decisions may impact your business. For the most current rule information, call 1-800-CUT-SMOG® or check AQMD's Rule Book on the web at www.aqmd.gov/rules/rulesreg.html.

Emissions from Gaseous- and Liquid-Fueled Engines (Rule 1110.2)

The owner or operator of agricultural engines (with specified exceptions) shall submit to the Executive Officer applications for permits to construct engine modifications, control equipment, or replacement engines.

Deadline: September 1, 2007

Contact: Steve Jones (909) 396-2094

Emission Reduction Permits for Large Confined Animal Facilities (Rule 223)

On or after January 15, 2007, no large confined animal facility (LCAF) shall be built, erected, installed, altered, replaced, or operated without first obtaining written authorization from the Executive Officer.

Deadline: January 15, 2007

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Odors from Transfer Stations and Material Recovery Facilities (Rule 410)

Facility owners and managers electing to comply with a District-approved Rule 410 Odor Management Plan (OMP) shall complete and submit its OMP to the Executive Officer.

Deadline: April 4, 2007 for existing facilities; July 1, 2007 for new facilities that begin operations prior to January 1, 2008.

Contact: David Jones (909) 396-2317

Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing (Rule 461)

On and after deadline date, specified equipment shall operate only after receipt of a valid Permit to Construct or Permit to Operate from AQMD.

Deadline: July 1, 2007

Contact: Lou Roberto (909) 396-2349

Architectural Coatings (Rule 1113)

Effective July 1, 2007:

- Labels of concrete-curing compounds shall prominently display the statement "FOR ROADWAYS AND BRIDGES ONLY (Not for Use on Curbs and Gutters, Sidewalks, Islands, Driveways and Other Miscellaneous Concrete Areas)".
- The January 1, 2005 VOC limit for lacquers becomes applicable and enforceable.
- The Fire-Retardant Coating category will be eliminated and subsumed by the coating category for which such coatings are formulated.
- No person shall supply, sell, offer for sale, manufacture, blend, or repackage, for use within the District, nor shall any person apply or solicit the application of: Dry-Fog Coatings exceeding 150 g/L VOC less water and exempt compounds; or Concrete-Curing Compounds, Specialty Primers, Stains, and Traffic Coatings exceeding 100 g/L VOC less water and exempt compounds; or Nonflat High Gloss and Quick-Dry Enamels

exceeding 50 g/L VOC less water and exempt compounds.

Deadline: July 1, 2007

Contact: Naveen Berry (909) 396-2363;
Steve Jones (909) 396-2094

Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares (Rule 1118)

Effective January 1, 2007, facilities subject to this rule shall:

- Submit to the Executive Officer an evaluation of options to reduce flaring during planned shutdowns, startups and turnarounds.
- Operate all flares in such a manner that minimizes all flaring and that no vent gas is combusted except during emergencies, shutdowns, startups, turnarounds or essential operational needs.
- Monitor and record as specified in the Rule.

Effective January 1, 2007, for all emergency and general service flares:

- (A) Install each flow meter in a manner and at a location that would allow for accurate measurements of the total volume of vent gas to each flare.
- (B) Install an automated sample collection system at each flare.
- (C) Monitor and record the pilot gas and purge gas flow to each flare using a flow meter.

Effective July 1, 2007:

- If a flare monitoring system is used to measure and record the operating parameters for emergency service flares, as well as general service flares, the flare monitoring system shall consist of a continuous vent gas flow meter, a continuous higher heating value analyzer, a total sulfur analyzer and recorder that meet the requirements specified in Attachment A to Rule 1118.
- The higher (gross) heating value of vent gases shall be determined with a higher heating value analyzer that meets or exceeds the specifications in Attachment A to Rule 1118.
- The total sulfur concentration, expressed as sulfur dioxide, shall be determined with a total sulfur analyzer that meets or exceeds the specifications in Attachment A to Rule 1118.

Deadlines: see above

Contact: Sharon Garrett (310) 233-7010

Control of Nitrogen Oxides from Residential Type, Natural Gas-Fired Water Heaters (Rule 1121)

- On or after January 1, 2007, for water heaters greater than 50-gallon capacity (with certain exclusions), no person shall manufacture, distribute, sell, or install within the South Coast Air Quality Management District any gas-fired water heater unless it is certified to a NOx emission level of less than or equal to 10 nanograms of NOx per joule of heat output 15 ppmv at 3% O2, dry.
- Until July 1, 2007, any person may distribute, sell, offer for sale, or install gas-fired water heaters greater than 50-gallon capacity that are manufactured prior to January 1, 2007 and in compliance with rule requirements.
- On or before April 1, 2007, any person that manufactures direct-vent, power-vent or power direct-vent water heaters for sale within the South Coast Air Basin shall submit to the Executive Officer a final progress report.

Deadlines: see above

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Solvent Degreasers (Rule 1122)

Two or more facilities consolidating at least 65% of each of their total VOC emissions from certain batch-loaded cold cleaners or vapor degreasers are exempt from Rule 1122 requirements if the VOC emissions from all of the equipment do not exceed 66 pounds per month for the consolidating facilities.

Deadlines: see above

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Emission Reductions from Livestock Waste (Rule 1127)

An operator shall submit an annual report documenting the number of adult cows, heifers, and calves at the dairy the preceding calendar year, along with the amount of manure removed from the dairy in the preceding calendar year.

Deadline: January 15, 2007

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Emission Reductions from Co-Composting Operations (Rule 1133.2)

A source test shall be conducted on or before January 1, 2007 and every two years thereafter to determine control efficiency for existing co-composting operations. Operations with a capacity of 100,000 or more tons of throughput per year shall conduct all active co-composting within the confines of an enclosure as required, or submit a compliance plan for approval of the Executive Officer.

Deadline: January 1, 2007

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Plastic, Rubber, Leather, and Glass Coatings (Rule 1145)

On or after January 1, 2007, a person shall not apply on plastics, glass, leather, or rubber any general one-component coatings applied with a VOC content in excess of 120 g/L (1.0 lbs/gal), any mirror backing rolled coat coatings applied with a VOC content in excess of 312 g/L (2.6 lbs/gal), or any optical coatings applied with a VOC content in excess of 50 g/L (0.4 lbs/gal).

Deadline: January 1, 2007

Contact: Mark Von der Au (909) 396-2182

Further Reductions Of Particulate Emissions From Cement Manufacturing Facilities (Rule 1156)

On or before December 31, 2007, the operator of a non-pulse-jet baghouse shall submit a notification letter to demonstrate that the operator has completed at least 40% of the equipment modification or replacement required by December 31, 2010.

Deadline: December 31, 2007

Contact: Patrick Hotra (909) 396-2995

Solvent Cleaning Operations (Rule 1171)

The following are exempt from Rule 1171 solvent requirements until December 31, 2007:

- Solvents used to clean ultraviolet or electron beam lamps and reflectors used to cure ultraviolet or electron beam ink or coatings are exempt from compliance with applicable Rule 1171 solvent requirements until December 31, 2007.
- Solvents containing no more than 800 grams of VOC per liter which are used to clean metering rollers, dampening rollers and printing plates.
- Solvents containing no more than 650 grams of VOC per liter which are used to clean automatic roller and blanket cleaning systems.

Deadline: December 31, 2007

Contact: David DeBoer (909) 396-2329

Further Reductions of VOC Emissions From Storage Tanks At Petroleum Facilities (Rule 1178)

On or before January 1, 2007 the operator of a floating roof tank at any petroleum facility with annual VOC emissions exceeding 20 tons for emission inventory year 2000 shall:

- On internal floating roof tanks, equip each fixed roof support column and well with a sliding cover that is gasketed or has flexible fabric sleeves; equip each ladder well with a gasketed cover; equip and maintain other roof openings as required;

equip each tank with a rim seal system as required; and ensure that the VOC concentration in the vapor space above the IFR does not exceed 50% of its LEL for tanks installed before June 1, 1984 or 30% of its LEL for tanks installed on or after June 1, 1984.

- Equip fixed roof tanks so that tanks, roofs, pressure vacuum vents, and tank gauging or sampling devices are maintained in vapor tight condition unless specified otherwise in the rule and that tank emissions are vented; or convert any fixed roof tank containing organic liquids with true vapor pressure greater than 0.1 psia to an external or internal floating roof tank.

Deadline: January 1, 2007

Contact: Roger Christopher (909) 306-3041

Control of Perchloroethylene Emissions from Dry Cleaning Systems (Rule 1421)

Effective January 1, 2007, owners or operators of facilities operating on or after December 6, 2002 shall be allowed to operate its perchloroethylene dry cleaning system until the end of its useful life, but shall not operate such system without a secondary control on and after November 1, 2007. Owners or operators of perchloroethylene dry cleaning equipment at a facility that started business between December 6, 2002 and January 1, 2003, shall submit to the Executive Officer an initial report as required by January 1, 2007, and a quadrennial update report every four years thereafter as required.

Deadline: December 31, 2007

Contact: Hugh Heney (909) 396-2372

Spraying Operations Using Coatings Containing Chromium (Rule 1469.1)

Before July 1, 2007, the owner or operator of a facility with one or more new or existing sources subject to this rule shall:

- Submit either a Compliance Plan demonstrating compliance with emission limits for all hexavalent chromium spraying operations, or a Notification of Compliance.
- Ventilate each source at a facility to air pollution control equipment or demonstrate through an approved health risk assessment or a Rule 1402 Risk Reduction Plan implemented before July 1, 2007, that facility-wide emissions of all toxic air contaminants result in a limited cancer risk at all receptor locations,
- On and after July 1, 2007, a person shall not spray primers or coatings containing chromium unless all overspray containing chromium is captured and directed to air pollution control equipment.

Deadlines: see above

Contact: Brian Yeh (909) 396-2584

Requirements for Stationary Diesel-Fueled Internal Combustion and Other Compression Ignition Engines (Rule 1470)

Owners or operators of 3 or fewer in-use emergency standby or stationary diesel-fueled CI engines (> 50 bhp) from model years 1990 through 1995 that are subject to certain operating requirements shall be in compliance with these requirements by no later than January 1, 2007.

Deadline: December 31, 2007

Contact: Mike Gonzalez (909) 396-2405

2007 RECLAIM Deadlines

Below are the 2007 compliance deadlines for all facilities that must comply with AQMD's NOx and SOx RECLAIM rules (Regulation XX). For more information on these deadlines, contact the RECLAIM Hotline at (909) 396-3119.

Daily emissions reports - for major sources, reports are due, via remote terminal unit, by 5 p.m. the next day. [Rules 2011 (c)(3)(A) and 2012 (c)(3)(A)]

Monthly emissions reports - for large NOx sources, reports are due, via modem or District Internet Web site, fifteen days after the end of each month. [Rule 2012 (d)(2)(B)]

Monthly aggregate emission report - for major sources, report is due, via modem, fifteen days after the end of each month. [Rules 2011 (c)(3)(B) and 2012 (c)(3)(B)]

Quarterly emission reports - for process units, equipment exempt from permit, equipment operating under a various location permit, equipment operating with temporary permit and quarterly aggregate emissions reports major and large sources, as well as the aforementioned equipment types, reports are due 30 days after the end of each quarter, except for the last quarter of each compliance year when reports are due 60 days after the end of the quarter. These reports are to be submitted via modem. Alternatively, reports for large sources and process units may be submitted via the District Internet Web site. [Rules 2011 (d)(2)(B), 2012 (e)(2)(B), Chapter 5 of Appendix A to Rule 2011, and Chapter 7 of Appendix A to Rule 2012]

Quarterly Certification of Emissions Reports (QCERs)- All facilities must submit original signed QCERs identifying the aggregate totals of emissions for all equipment types at the facility within 30 days after the end of each of the first three quarters of a Compliance Year. [Rule 2004 (b)(2)]

January 1 – March 1. All Cycle 1 facilities must submit original signed Compliance Year 2006 Annual Permit Emission Program (APEP) reports. [Rule 2004 (b)(4)]

July 1 - Aug. 29. All Cycle 2 facilities must submit original signed Compliance Year 2006 Annual Permit Emission Program (APEP) reports. [Rule 2004 (b)(4)]

RULE UPDATE

The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the AQMD Web site at www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb_cal95.html and check the Rule and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500.

Copies of AQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the Web site at www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html or provided by AQMD's Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

February 2, 2007



Proposed Rule 1139 (Phase 1) -Ultra-low VOC Cleaning Products Certification

District staff will propose the establishment of a certification/labeling program that would be applicable to ultra-low VOC cleaning products used by institutional and commercial establishments.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.

March 2, 2007



Proposed Amended Rule 1309.1-Priority Reserve

Would establish conditions for access and operation of the Priority Reserve to address Environmental Justice concerns.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.



Proposed Amended Rule 1173-Control of Volatile Organic Compound Leaks and Releases from Components at Petroleum Facilities and Chemical Plants

Amendments as necessary to address significant releases from atmospheric pressure relief devices and to address new monitoring technology.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.



Proposed Rule 1187-PM Emissions from Wood-Burning Fireplaces and Wood Stoves (MSC-06)

Would reduce PM10 emissions from wood burning fireplaces and wood burning stoves.

For more information, contact Lee Lockie at (909) 396-2390 or llockie@aqmd.gov.

Recent Events

• Mobile Board Meeting

On November 3, AQMD's Governing Board held a special Board meeting in Long Beach at which time they approved \$36 million in funding to help clean up dirty diesel trucks operating at the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The funding will be spread over a five-year period.

• Air Quality Institutes

The AQMD Air Quality Institute held 8 briefings throughout the region for approximately 200 attendees. Representatives from newly elected or appointed officials, business leaders, and community leaders participated in 4-hour policy briefings and discussions related to air quality and public health issues affecting the Southland. The Air Quality Institute was developed to provide an understanding of the complexity of air quality issues that are challenging the South Coast region today.

AQMD's Permit Streamlining Efforts

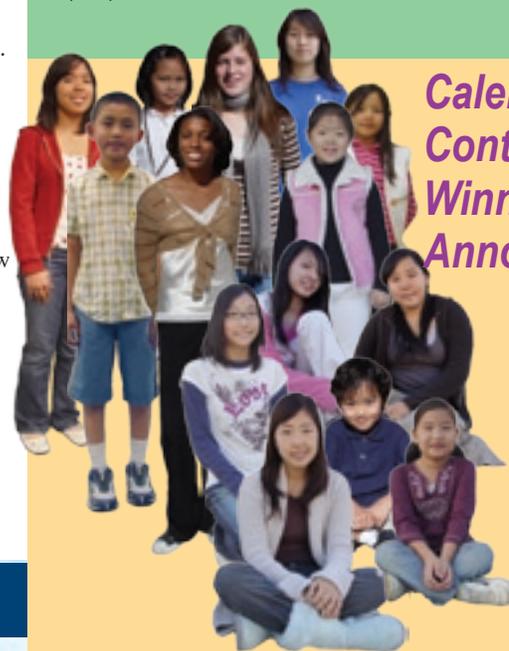
AQMD has been a pioneer in developing and implementing a wide range of permit streamlining measures. A Permit Streamlining Task Force was created in 1998 to develop recommendations in order to expedite permitting and improve customer service for businesses regulated by the AQMD.

The task force meets periodically to evaluate and identify potential bottlenecks associated with permit processing and to suggest additional improvements to streamline permit processing.

At the Governing Board's direction, AQMD staff met with the task force and other industry representatives to solicit suggestions.

Input received includes adding permanent and temporary permitting staff, providing supplemental training to reduce the application backlog, updating AQMD's Policies and Procedures, and creating additional Permit Processing Templates. The system enhancements include modification and improvements to several of the computer programs used by permit processing staff for timelier issuance of permits.

For more information, contact Mohan Balagopalan at (909) 396-2704.



Calendar Contest Winners Announced

The 2007 AQMD Calendar Contest, "Color My World with Healthy Air" drew entries from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Students ranging from grades K-12 created artwork depicting their ideas of a world with healthy, clean air.

The winners are Atichar Amy, Larissa, Eric, Mina, Angela, Soomin, Amber, Kang Yun, Rebecca, Marcella, Lenna, Jaime, and Isaac. The grand prize winner is Charlene.

To request a complimentary calendar, e-mail cleanaircongress@aqmd.gov or call Patrician Price at (909) 396-2690. Calendars are also available at AQMD's Public Information Center, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar.

Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD

Allen Mednick



AQMD
Advisor

Allen Mednick was recently promoted to Principal Deputy District Prosecutor, having been with the AQMD since 1989.

Allen, born and raised in New York City, attended City College of New York, received his law degree from George Washington University in Washington D.C., and served in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve over a 6-year period.

He practiced seven years in New York City, first as a Wall Street municipal bond attorney representing states & municipalities throughout the U.S., and later practicing corporate/commercial law.

“My first contacts with environmental law,” he says, “were on major financing projects such as the Louisiana Superdome, HUD

and utility projects. That was my initial experience regarding permit and environmental issues.”

Allen moved here in 1975 and ran his own Beverly Hills general practice for 13 years. “But I wanted more meaningful and worthwhile work, in the greater scheme of things,” he says. When the AQMD position opened, he joined and never looked back.

These days, Allen helps oversee enforcement of regulations, handles NOV prosecutions, hearings before the Hearing Board, works proactively with businesses, and advises AQMD staff and officers.

Allen sees his heavy drafting experience as one advantage of his lengthy career. “I started practicing law in the Stone Age

before word processing, photocopiers and fax machines. I drafted very lengthy documents and it was physically difficult to proofread and make changes. This put a premium on developing good drafting skills,” he says. “I love how quickly things can move now, but I continually benefit from those early skills.”

Allen and his wife of seven years, Dianna, live in Diamond Bar, enjoy photography, and have recently taken up roller skating, both for exercise and pure enjoyment.

Allen says he feels “privileged to work with such dedicated and bright colleagues, from so many different fields, backgrounds and cultures. It’s an honor.”

For years, Noe Sosa has been helping people build steps to better health, literally, because his contribution to public health often involves a hammer and nails.

Noe joined AQMD in 2002 as a general maintenance helper for building services.

He helps maintain nearly every facet of the agency’s six-level facility in Diamond Bar, including lights, plumbing, and electrical circuitry.

Previously, he was employed in the commercial construction trade for 11 years, working chiefly on converting structures to medical clinics, throughout greater Los Angeles. That experience honed his skills in plumbing, electrical, dry wall, plastering, painting, and reading blueprints.

Born and raised in Mexico City, Noe came to the U.S. in 1986. His previous training was in administration, but he decided to try construction. The first job he was assigned was digging a two-foot deep by forty-foot long trench with a pick and shovel, by himself. “Later my boss told me it was a test, and I passed,” he remembers.

Since his promotion to general maintenance worker in summer 2006, Noe has helped fellow AQMD crew members install air monitoring stations such as the one in Pico Rivera, as well as radar-based wind profilers such as one at Los Angeles International Airport.

He and his wife Leticia have a son, Noe Jr., 17, who enjoys football, track, and fishing with his dad, and a daughter, Veronica, 13, who enjoys reading and going to movies with family.

“I feel like I am playing a part to make the air better for my own family,” says Noe. “Mexico City has terrible problems with smog, and here it’s great to see that we can really do something about it.”



Noe Sosa

For 21 years, Melesio Hernandez has worked in AQMD’s Engineering and Compliance Division, Industrial Branch, and for the last 17 years served as a Supervising Air Quality Inspector.

After graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from California State University Long Beach, Melesio began his professional career as a process engineer at an audiotape and videotape manufacturing facility, where he was responsible for the solvent recovery process.

In 1986 he joined AQMD as an Air Quality Inspector in the Colton office. He currently is responsible for a region that includes the cities of Alhambra, Pasadena, Altadena, Monterey Park, Vernon, Commerce, Cudahy, Bell, Bell Gardens, Huntington Park and part of the City of Los Angeles.

As a Supervising Air Quality Inspector, Melesio is responsible for planning, organizing and coordinating the implementation of RECLAIM, Title V and various other programs within this geographical area, which includes a wide variety of businesses including rendering facilities located in the City of Vernon.

“These facilities provide an important service in handling unwanted waste from restaurants and slaughter houses,” states Melesio. “However, the nature of the materials handled often generates obnoxious odors, presenting a real compliance challenge.”

Married with two sons, Melesio likes to travel with his family and friends in a fifth wheel camper to various campgrounds in California, Arizona and Nevada. Arguably the best golfer at AQMD, Melesio has his stiffest competition from his two boys: Julian, who is on his high school varsity team, and Daniel, who plays on his college golf team.

Melesio Hernandez





South Coast
Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

Address Service Requested

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Walnut, CA
Permit No. 95

Briefly...

Alternative Fuels & Vehicles National Conference & Expo 2007

- April 1-4, Anaheim Convention Center

For more information and to register, visit www.afvi.org/NationalConference2007 or call (702) 254-4180.

Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/ Renovation Activities

- January 17
- February 14
- March 14

The classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at AQMD headquarters. There is a \$32.75 class fee. To register call (909) 396-2381 or send e-mail to jmoore@aqmd.gov.

Rule 2202-Employee Transportation Coordinator Training

- February 14, AQMD Diamond Bar headquarters
- February 28, Hilton Hotel, Costa Mesa
- March 7, The Getty Center, Los Angeles
- March 21, AQMD Diamond Bar headquarters

Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$59.73 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, call (909) 396-2777 or e-mail etctraining@aqmd.gov.

Rule 403-Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin

- Every third Wednesday of the month

This half-day class is held at the AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 403.1-Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley

- Every third Thursday of the month
- This course is held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Room 119, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert, CA, 92260. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

AQMD Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange county and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.

To subscribe, send your name and address to: AQMD Advisor, AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182, or e-mail aqmdadvisor@aqmd.gov.

For news updates and other information, visit AQMD's Web site at www.aqmd.gov.

The AQMD Advisor is now available online at www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/webpubs.htm or visit aqmd.gov and select "Quick Links" / "Advisor."

