

New State Bond Measure to Provide \$1.2 Billion for Air Quality If Approved

A bond measure on California's November ballot will provide \$1.2 billion in state funding for air pollution mitigation projects related to diesel emissions at ports, and also for the replacement of older school buses, if approved by voters.

On May 16, 2006 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 1266 by State Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata (D-Oakland), which is the \$20 billion transportation element of the Strategic Growth Plan proposed by the Governor to help relieve traffic congestion on California's overcrowded roads, augment the state's mass transit and rail systems, and improve the air quality around our busy ports.

The bond measure provides over \$1 billion for air quality improvements that will achieve emission reductions related to port operations and freight movement. This includes funding strategies to reduce the emissions of diesel and other pollutants in the movement of goods along California's trade corridors.

Another \$200 million of the bond funding will also provide for the retrofit or replacement of older, polluting school buses to protect children from the harmful affects of diesel emissions.

This ballot measure's effort to fund projects to reduce emissions at ports also coincides with recent efforts launched by the AQMD. In January 2006 the AQMD Governing Board adopted the Clean Port Initiative Work Plan to limit emissions from local port facilities. With the steady increase in port activity and associated goods movement, the AQMD has identified the ports as the No. 1 fixed source of air pollution in the region.

The AQMD's Clean Port Initiative was announced by Governing Board Chairman William Burke, Ed.D., at a special meeting in Long Beach last November. It outlines steps that the AQMD, along with federal, state agencies and local and international ports, can take to help reduce port pollution in the region.

For more information, contact Pom Pom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.



Particulates Pose Risk to Health

The potential for harmful impacts on children's health from particulate pollution related to traffic was one of the major messages delivered during the AQMD's three-day international conference on "Ultrafine Particles – the Science, Technology and Policy Issues," held in Los Angeles, April 30-May 2, 2006.

Information on the health impacts from particulates and other air pollutants resulting from traffic was part of a presentation given by James Gauderman, Ph.D., of USC's Keck School of Medicine during the conference. The presentation was based primarily on the results of a 14-year "Children's Health Study," and the recently released "Traffic, Susceptibility, and Childhood Asthma Study." Both studies were conducted by Gauderman and other researchers at the University of Southern California.

Children living near freeways have a greater chance of developing asthma according to the studies. Children are especially susceptible to air pollution because their bodies are still developing and they breathe more rapidly than adults.

Asthma risks also increased by 50

percent for those living within 75 meters of a major road, and the most susceptible were residents with no family history of asthma, according to the studies.

During the conference other speakers outlined some of the steps that need to be taken to control ultrafine particles.

Several recommendations were offered to achieve emissions of ultrafine particles which include:

- Further optimize the design of both engines and their emission control systems to reduce both the mass and number of particles emitted;
- Continue reduction of sulfur content in fuels; and
- Establish a standard for lube oils that will result in lower ultrafine particle emissions.

Health scientists are concerned about the potential health effects of ultrafine particles for several reasons. When inhaled, ultrafines are deposited along the length of the airways, from the nose to deep alveolar lung tissue. Due to their minute size, studies indicate they can migrate from the airways to the central nervous system and organs

throughout the body including the heart and brain. Research at the University of California, Los Angeles, has shown that ultrafine particles penetrate cells and may damage mitochondria, the body's cellular energy factories.

In addition, ultrafine particles can be shaped like tiny branches, rather than round balls, and have hundreds to thousands of times more surface area than the same mass of PM2.5 particles. This greatly increased surface area could make ultrafine particles capable of transporting much larger amounts of toxic compounds into the body.

Most ultrafine particles are formed as engine exhaust gases exit the tailpipe and become diluted in air. Measurements along the 710 Freeway have found about 1 million ultrafine particles in a space the size of a sugar cube. Outdoor concentrations of ultrafine particles tend to be highest in the western Los Angeles Basin, where most vehicle traffic is concentrated, and somewhat lower in the inland valleys.

For more information, contact Jean Ospital at (909) 396-2582.

Cleaning the air
that we breathe...



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AQMD Helps Protect Children's Health

By Replacing Region's Oldest School Buses with Clean-Fueled Models

The AQMD's Governing Board on June 2 approved spending nearly \$3 million to replace 15 of the region's oldest diesel school buses with new, clean-burning natural gas-powered buses.

"Health studies continue to show the importance of reducing children's exposure to air pollution and particularly harmful diesel exhaust," said William Burke, Ed.D., Governing Board Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. "This funding puts us one step closer to our goal of replacing all dirty diesel school buses in the Southland with cleaner technology."

The funding will be used to purchase new compressed natural gas (CNG) powered buses as well as CNG fueling stations for five school districts (see following list). The program is funded by \$2.1 million from the state and \$857,750 from AQMD. The Legislature approved \$12.5 million last year to replace 89 of the oldest buses statewide.

School District	# of Buses to be Replaced
ABC Unified	1
Azusa Unified	2
Downey Unified	2
Fontana Unified	8
Huntington Beach	2

Since 2000, AQMD's Board has become a national leader in adopting policies and providing incentives to replace dirty diesel school buses with alternative fuel models, including:

- Adoption in 2001 of Rule 1195, requiring that school districts purchase alternative fuel buses, when they replace older ones, if outside funding is available;
- Approval of \$55.8 million to date to replace 357 older diesel buses with 271 new CNG and 86 lower-emitting diesel buses, and retrofitted more than 2,100 buses with particulate traps; and
- Soliciting applications for \$14 million in funding to replace older buses and \$5.45 million to retrofit additional buses with particulate traps. Applications are due by July 7 and incentives are expected to be awarded this fall.

For more information, contact Fred Minassian at (909) 396-2641.

Business Owners, Please Note: Annual Emissions Reports Due August 29th

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) requires facilities which exceed specific emissions thresholds to annually report their emissions and pay fees. Facilities may use either the AQMD reporting software or official paper forms for calculating and reporting their emissions for the period from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

The reporting software and also all paper forms and instructions, as well as supplemental instructions are all available on the AQMD web-site at www.aqmd.gov/aer/aer.html. The use of supplied software is highly recommended. It will save the facility time and minimize the calculation errors. In addition the facilities' emissions data, including toxics, are now available on this web-site for public access.

There are also three information workshops scheduled to be held at the AQMD's Headquarters in Diamond Bar for the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Annual Emissions Reporting Program. There is no need to register for these workshops and they are free of charge. The workshops will help facility personnel prepare the Annual Emissions Report using the software or paper forms. Each workshop will include a discussion on the changes to the program, the emissions reporting process, an overview and demonstration of how to use the software, and responses to questions from attendees. The workshops dates and times are as follows:

1. Tues., July 11, 2006 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm
2. Thurs., July 13, 2006 from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm
3. Wed., July 19, 2006 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Staff at a facility may also call the AQMD's Help and Appointment Hotline at (909) 396-3660 to obtain help in completing its report. You may also schedule an appointment for a one-on-one consultation by calling the Hotline.

The deadline for submitting the 2005-2006 Annual Emissions Report and applicable fees is Tuesday, August 29, 2006.



Residents Can Now "FIND" Information on Facilities on Web

The AQMD has launched a web service dubbed "FIND" that gives users detailed information on more than 26,000 businesses and industrial facilities that it regulates.

"Residents want easy access to information about facilities and air pollution in their neighborhoods," said Barry Wallerstein, executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. "This new web tool – the most comprehensive one of its kind in the state – will give residents the ability to access a wealth of air pollution-related information."

AQMD's new Facility Information Detail database -- or FIND -- provides detailed information on a facility's emissions, permitted equipment and compliance history, including equipment applications and permit numbers, as well as information on types of equipment at a facility. Users can also access compliance history and emissions data for both smog-forming and toxic emissions by year and pollutant. Information available through FIND is drawn from AQMD's databases and is updated at least once a week.

The comprehensive site provides three ways to search for information:

- By facility name, street name, city or ZIP code, to get a list of facilities matching the search criteria;
- By AQMD facility identification number, permit application number, violation notice, or AQMD Hearing Board case number to get detailed information for a single facility; or
- By location using an interactive map. The map displays AQMD-regulated facilities as well as local schools, streets, and freeways. This feature gives users the ability to find facilities within a specified distance of any location, such as their home or a child's school.

To access FIND, go to AQMD's home page at www.aqmd.gov and click on Community/Public Information/Facility Info Search or go directly to <http://www.aqmd.gov/webappl/fim/default.htm>.



World Asthma Day 2006

On May 6th, the AQMD participated in a World Asthma Day event held at Hooper Avenue Elementary School in Los Angeles. The event united children, adults, and advocates working to combat asthma in Southern California. It also provided an opportunity to learn how air pollution and asthma are connected; how to improve asthma management in schools; how to manage a child's asthma, and how to reduce asthma triggers in the home.

Each year in the month of May, international, national and local asthma awareness month activities are organized in conjunction with World Asthma Day to increase public understanding of asthma and environmental asthma triggers. World Asthma Day is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), a collaborative project of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (US), the National Institutes of Health (USA) and the World Health Organization. GINA was launched in 1993 as a collaborative effort of these organizations.

The 2006 World Asthma Day theme, "The Unmet Needs of Asthma," was chosen to call the attention of doctors, patients, and the community at large to become

aware of the need for better asthma management and treatment.

In 2007, the AQMD will host an International Asthma Conference in Southern California.

For more information on the Conference, please contact Patrician Price at (909) 396-2690.



AQMD Awards \$1.5 Million For Clean Fuel Taxicabs



The AQMD Governing Board on May 5 approved \$1.5 million in funding to increase the number of clean-burning, natural gas taxicabs operated at commercial airports in the Southland.

“Increasing the use of clean-fueled taxis will help improve air quality and reduce vehicle emissions in congested areas such as airports,” said Barry Wallerstein, AQMD’s executive officer. “The project also heightens public awareness of clean-fueled vehicles.”

The funding will be used to assist taxicab operators with the purchase of new Ford Crown Victoria compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles for use at commercial airports in the four-county area. In 2005, AQMD awarded about \$1.2 million for CNG taxicabs.

With this action, AQMD now has \$2.74 million available to assist taxicab operators in purchasing about 115 CNG taxicabs.

Taxicab operators have expressed a strong demand for the Crown Victoria CNG vehicle buy-down program to help defray the vehicle cost. The vehicle costs about \$36,000 which includes a base cost of approximately \$26,000 for a gasoline-powered Crown Victoria and approximately \$10,000 to have the vehicle converted to run on CNG. The CNG Crown Victoria is certified by the California Air Resources Board as a Super-Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle.

Funding comes from AQMD’s Air Quality Investment Program, which is financed by companies in the Southland that pay a fee in lieu of offering ride-share incentives as required by AQMD’s Rule 2202, and AQMD’s Clean Fuels program.

For more information, contact Dean Saito at (909) 396-2647.

HEAVY DUTY LNG TRUCK TOUR VISITS AQMD HEADQUARTERS

As part of a four-city tour in California – a High Pressure Direct Injection (HPDI) Heavy Duty Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Truck was on display for the public’s viewing at the AQMD’s parking lot in Diamond Bar on May 12. Fueled by liquefied natural gas, one of the world’s most abundant and cleanest burning sources of energy, these innovative heavy duty trucks reduce nitrogen oxides (NOx) by 50%; particulate matter (PM) by 80%; and greenhouse gases by 20%; compared to current diesel trucks. The truck’s HPDI equipped engine also maintains the same horsepower and torque curves of current diesel engines, and uses 94% natural gas and 6% diesel during a typical operational period. The truck, manufactured by Westport Innovations Inc. of Vancouver, Canada – made its first stop at the Port of Los Angeles on May 11, and then after leaving the AQMD, continued on to the cities of Montebello and then Fresno.

EPA Urged to Do More to Reduce Emissions from Trains, Planes and Ships

A joint resolution of the State Legislature sponsored by the AQMD calling upon the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce emissions from marine vessels and locomotives in ports passed the Assembly Transportation Committee on June 26. The measure is now before the full Assembly for consideration.

SJR 31 by Senator Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach) urges the EPA to adopt stricter regulations that will place increased limits on the toxic diesel emissions that come from marine vessels, locomotives and aircraft. The resolution also calls upon EPA to require the implementation of cleaner technologies to reduce emissions at the earliest possible date, and to allow state and local air districts to adopt regulations requiring emission standards for remanufactured locomotives once they are placed in use.

Currently, emissions from ships, locomotives, and airplanes are largely under federal jurisdiction, and the State and the AQMD have only limited authority over them. Pollution from these sources is also projected to increase significantly in the future with the steady growth in port activities, and associated transportation and movement of goods in the region.

For more information, contact Oscar Abarca at (909) 396-3242.



2006 Clean Air Awards Set for October

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will host its 18th Annual Clean Air Awards on October 12, 2006, recognizing individuals and organizations for significant contributions to cleaner air in the Southland over the past year.

The Clean Air Awards are presented in five categories:

- Advancement of Air Pollution Technology
- Innovative Transportation Projects
- Model Community Achievement
- Public Education on Air Quality Issues
- Promotion of Good Environmental Stewardship

Among last year's winners were: a young student campaigning for clean air so that he can play soccer without suffering an asthma attack; a large food service company that voluntarily converted more than 50 trucks to run on clean-burning natural gas; a state legislator who authored key air quality legislation to help clean up the ports; a physician specializing in air pollution health effects research, and an alternative fuel technology pioneer whose research and studies can significantly help reduce air pollution.

This year's awards ceremony will be held at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

For information on pre-registering to attend the event, please call Geri Bowen at 909-396-2778, or send an email to gbowen@aqmd.gov

Color My World With Healthy Air

Calendar Contest 2007

Air pollution affects everyone's health, especially kids. AQMD invites students ranging from grades K-12 to create artwork depicting ideas of a world that is healthy with clean air for our 2007 Calendar Contest.

Twelve winning pieces of artwork will be selected, one for each month of the year. Winners will get a \$50 gift check. One GRAND PRIZE WINNER will be selected for the cover. He or she will win a \$100 gift check, and a SURPRISE GIFT.

We're looking for bright-colored artwork with a brief clean air message describing what the picture is about. The words can be in English, Spanish, Chinese or Korean.

For entry form and contest rules, go to the AQMD website: www.aqmd.gov. For more information, contact Patricia Price at 909-396-2690, e-mail her at pprice@aqmd.gov, or call 1-800-CUT-SMOG. You can also pick up an entry form at the AQMD headquarters' Public Information Center, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar.



Lawn Mower Exchange Mows Down Pollution

AQMD's 2006 Lawn Mower Exchange Program was a rousing success. A total of 4,060 residents traded in a working gasoline-powered mower, and for only \$100, bought a brand new Neuton® cordless electric mower (a \$399 value). These people not only got a great deal, they are reducing pollution at the grass roots level. A typical gas mower used once a week for a year can pollute as much as 43 new cars driven 12,000 miles each.

Since the program began in 2003,

more than 15,500 gasoline mowers have been scrapped. This year, seven widely-publicized exchange events were held on consecutive Saturdays in Palm Desert, Chino, Riverside, Van Nuys, South Pasadena, Santa Ana and Inglewood. Participants pre-registered, either online, or by calling a toll free number, and were given an appointment. Most participants were able to complete the entire process of exchanging their old mower for the electric one in about 20 minutes.

Exchange events are concluded for 2006. Look for announcements of next year's program on the District's web page (www.aqmd.gov) in February or March of 2007. Recorded announcements can also be heard on the toll-free lawn mower exchange information line, (888) 425-6247.

For more information, contact Larry Koleczak (909) 396-3215



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 website 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 website at www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html or provided by AQMD's Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

August

No Governing Board meeting in August

September



Proposed Rule 410-Odor Abatement for Solid Waste Transfer Stations and Processing Facilities

Proposed Rule 410 would implement Strategy #10 from the Cumulative Impacts White Paper. The proposed rule will require large solid waste transfer stations and material recycling facilities to implement odor management practices to minimize nuisance odors from their operations.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at snakamura@aqmd.gov or (909) 396-3105.



Proposed Amended Rule 1302-Definitions; Proposed Amended Rule 1309.1-Priority Reserve

Rule 1302 will amend definition of Essential Public Service to include publicly owned or operated biosolids processing operations. The proposed amendments to Rule 1309.1 will extend the access to the Priority Reserve for qualifying electric generating facilities and adjust the amounts to be paid for credits.

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

Recent Events

Air Quality Summit

The AQMD hosted a two-day Air Quality Summit on June 5-6, 2006 at the Ontario Airport Marriott Hotel. Over 200 people, including experts in the fields of emissions controls, new technologies, energy conservation and transportation, attended the Summit to provide new and innovative concepts that will augment staff's proposals for future emissions reductions for the 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP).

Orange Blossom Festival

Staff from AQMD took part in the annual Orange Blossom festival held in downtown Riverside. The festival, held May 20 & 21, attracted thousands of residents from the region. AQMD staff provided information on air pollution and health effects, tips on making clean air consumer choices, and ways to comment on future policymaking options.

Flare Notification Procedures Community Meeting

AQMD held a community meeting in Wilmington in June to receive input on how refinery flare events have affected local communities and how best to notify the public when flare events occur. The information received from those attending the community meeting will be valuable as the flare working group develops proposed notification procedures.



Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD

AQMD
Advisor

Larry Bowen



Larry Bowen joined the AQMD in June, 1977 as one of five permit processing engineers assigned to the Anaheim Office. He was promoted to Senior Engineer in 1980 and worked in rule development. Then Larry became the Rules Manager in May 1981 and has worked in a number of areas as a manager, and has gone full circle back to Planning/ Rule Development reporting to Assistant DEO, Laki Tisopulos. Larry stated "Rule Development at the AQMD may be many things but one thing it has never been is boring. I never have to say - What am I going to do today to keep myself occupied?" He admits that he likes variety and his work here has allowed that

opportunity.

Larry holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Arizona, is a Professional Engineer, and earned his MBA from California Polytechnic University, Pomona, along with his wife, Geri. Yep, romance blossomed right here at the AQMD. Although they didn't interface very much at work, they did and do spend a lot of time together on activities outside the AQMD. The two-year newlyweds both enjoy whitewater canoeing trips and hiking, and they have developed good friends through these activities and have been able to see a lot of interesting places from a different perspective by canoe-

ing, such as the Grand Canyon. "I ended up swimming more rapids than I paddled in the canyon," Larry confessed.

Larry is an avid pilot, and learned to fly while in engineering school. And for some of you AQMD history buffs, Larry stated "if the AQMD reinstates its air force it disbanded many years ago, I would be one of the first to volunteer to fly for them."

Between them, Geri and Larry have two boys and two girls, all adults. And, as both have stated, they are now experiencing the joys of seeing them all start their own careers and families.

"I thought this was a good place to advance my career, and that I would be here for about three years then move." For Geri Bowen that was twenty-three years ago. Geri Koerner Bowen, married barely two years ago to Larry Bowen, came to the District in September 1983 and began her career as an Intermediate Clerk/Typist in Planning. She then went to Finance as a Financial Analyst and in 2000 as a Staff Specialist, joined Technology Advancement, reporting to Dr. Chung Liu.



Geri Bowen

Admittedly one of the reasons she came to the AQMD was because, with two young boys, the AQMD offered excellent health benefits. During her twenty-three years she went back to school and got her MBA at Cal Poly Pomona. She also started dating a lovely man from the district who had two daughters, had similar interests in white water canoeing and thus the relationship began.

Geri's current job is varied, working with special funds, budgets, and programs relating to clean fuels, school buses, Carl Moyer, and special events. This is a far cry from her previous jobs prior to the AQMD - at a car dealership and in small business.

Geri stated "I remember many years ago standing in Long Beach waiting for a bus to go to my elementary school and you knew it wasn't going to be a good day when your chest hurt to breathe and your eyes stung from the pollution. We have made so many advancements in air quality since then, and I like knowing that I, in some small way, have had a part in it." She also commented that many of her close friends are part of the AQMD extended family.

Between Larry and Geri, they have managed to raise her two sons, Aaron and Justin and his two daughters, Marissa and Jaclyn. And now, with the kids leading their own busy lives, they can almost glimpse the future of a nice canoe ride down the San Juan River in Utah or Salt River in Arizona or perhaps the Priest River in Idaho.

Alex Salcedo began working in AQMD's Information Management division in August 1998 under a temporary contract and in April 2000 he became a full-time employee as a telecommunications technician.

Alex's main task each day is to support user needs for AQMD's communication systems, including their computers, voicemail, and in-house software applications such as the Clean Air Support System (CLASS). "My job is to make sure they can do their job," he says, "with all those tools up and running." He also supports the Governing Board's videoconference capabilities, which save vehicle miles when attendees can join proceedings by remote hookup connections.

Alex graduated from Garfield High in 1996 and became a U.S. citizen in 2000. In July 2006, Alex will receive a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

His wife Yvonne is a retail store manager for Pumpkin Patch maternity and children's clothing.

They were married in August 2004 in the Bahamas, with a vacation-honeymoon. "Seeing the Fox reality TV show Bridezillas convinced us to have a going-away party instead of a formal family wedding," he says. "We bought a new house in Moreno Valley, and so far, it has given us a much better return than a wedding would have."

They have a son, Isiah, age 1, and little Alex, 8, who enjoys basketball and swimming. Alex also has a younger brother, Adrian, and a nephew, Julian.

"I feel fortunate," says Alex, "because the people here at the district are great to work with, and as a dad I know how important clean air is for all our families."

Alex Salcedo





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Air Quality Management District
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Briefly...

Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/Renovation Activities

- August 16
- August 30
- September 20

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

- August 16, Anheuser Busch, Riverside
 - August 30, AQMD headquarters, Diamond Bar
 - September 13, Walt Disney Studios, Burbank
 - September 27, AQMD headquarters, Diamond Bar
- Classes are held from 8:00 a.m.

to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$57.63 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. *To register, call Paulette Henson phenson@aqmd.gov at (909) 396-3374 or Lilia Miranda at (909) 396-2059 or e-mail lmiranda@aqmd.gov.*

Rule 403-Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin

- August 20
- September 18

This half-day class is held at the AQMD 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 will be 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. *To register, call 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.*

AQMD Advisor

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