

Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chair 1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov



Matthew Rodriquez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

November 15, 2016

DECEMBER 1, 2016 PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS MEETING PM2.5 STANDARDS IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a workshop on Thursday, December 1, 2016, to discuss strategies for meeting PM2.5 air quality standards in the San Joaquin Valley. At the workshop, staff will present a science-based assessment of the sources contributing to PM2.5 levels in the Valley, the benefits of current controls programs, and an initial assessment of the scope of further emissions reductions needed to meet annual and 24-hour PM2.5 standards over the next ten years.

The public workshop will be held at the following location:

Date:

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Time:

1:00 p.m.

Location:

Fresno Council of Governments

Seguoia Room

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201

Fresno, CA 93721

Directions to the Fresno Council of Governments Office can be found at the following website: http://www.fresnocog.org/driving-directions

Special Accommodations or Language Assistance

If you require special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format or language, please contact Ms. Bronwyn Mednick at (916) 322-5350 or bronwyn.mednick@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for California Relay Service.

Workshop Information and Background

The San Joaquin Valley experiences some of the highest PM2.5 levels in the nation. Exposure to PM2.5 is associated with increased risk of hospitalization for lung and heart-related illnesses and premature mortality, especially in children, the elderly and

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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people with existing health problems. The federal Clean Air Act sets out requirements for establishing air quality standards, as well as plans for meeting them. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is required to periodically review standards to ensure they remain protective of public health. Based on this review, U.S. EPA has established increasingly health protective PM2.5 standards including both a daily standard to protect against short-term exposure, and an annual standard to address chronic health effects. By next fall, the Valley must develop plans to meet the daily standard of 35 ug/m3 and the original annual standard of 15 ug/m3. Further, in 2012, U.S. EPA lowered the annual standard to 12 ug/m3 with a plan due last month. Rather than develop individual strategies for each standard, ARB and the San Joaquin Valley District staff are working to develop a comprehensive strategy on an accelerated schedule addressing all of these standards. Meeting all of the PM2.5 standards will provide critical health protection for San Joaquin Valley residents.

At the direction of the Board, ARB staff is conducting several workshops in the San Joaquin Valley to assess opportunities for further reductions from stationary and mobile sources. ARB staff will prioritize reductions that can happen in the near-term and assess long-term reductions that can be implemented prior to 2025. ARB staff will report back to the Board in February with recommendations and next steps for continued strategy development.

We encourage your participation and look forward to your input. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Webster Tasat at (916) 323-4950 or webster.tasat@arb.ca.gov. If you have questions about meeting logistics, please contact Ms. Bronwyn Mednick at (916) 322-5350 or bronwyn.mednick@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Karen Magliano Chief

Air Quality Planning and Science Division

cc: Mr. Webster Tasat, Manager

Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section