

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

For Immediate Release:

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Public workshops scheduled to discuss Air District's Draft 2003 PM10 Plan

The public is invited to attend workshops to discuss general and technical issues in the San Joaquin Valley's Draft 2003 PM10 Plan. The Plan addresses strategies to reduce pollution from airborne particulate matter ten microns and smaller (PM10.) The Valley air basin currently doesn't meet federal or state standards on PM10 air pollution. PM10 is made up of tiny pieces of soot, dust, fly ash, smoke and other solids or liquids.

The draft plan can be obtained from the District's website at www.valleyair.org or by calling the District's Fresno office at (559) 230-5800 or by email from renee.devere@valleyair.org.

The public workshops will be held at the following times and locations:

Monday, April 7, 2003 1:00-4:00 PM	General Workshop	Originating from: Governing Board Room 1990 E. Gettysburg Fresno, California 93726
Monday, April 7, 2003 6:30-9:30 PM	General Workshop	Available through Video Teleconference (VTC): At Modesto and Bakersfield Offices
Wednesday, April 9, 2003 1:30-4:30 PM	General Workshop	Originating from: Bakersfield Office 2700 "M" Street, Suite 275 Bakersfield, California By VTC at Fresno and Modesto Offices
Thursday, April 10, 2003 9:30 AM -12:00 PM	General Workshop	Originating from: Modesto Office 4230 Kiernan Avenue, Suite 130 Modesto, California
Thursday, April 10, 2003 1:30-3:30 PM	Technical Workshop	By VTC at Fresno and Bakersfield Offices

During the general workshops, representatives of the Air District and the California Air Resources Board (ARB) will present the District's strategy for attaining the PM10 air quality standard. The workshops will also present the emissions inventory and the air quality computer modeling results demonstrating attainment of the air quality standards throughout the air basin. Participants will be able to ask questions and make comments about all aspects of the plan. A separate technical workshop is planned for April 10 at 1:30 PM that

will provide a more detailed discussion of the air quality modeling and other technical aspects of the plan.

The Air District is required by the Clean Air Act to submit to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a plan showing how the Valley will achieve federal air quality standards. In order for the Valley to prevent sanctions, the EPA must deem the PM10 Plan complete no later than August 28, 2003.

The Valley Air District will accept written and oral comments at the workshops, or comments can be mailed to Dave Mitchell, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., Fresno, CA 93726 or via e-mail to dave.mitchell@valleyair.org. The comment deadline is April 21, 2003. Following the upcoming workshops, comments and proposed changes will be reviewed and incorporated into the plan accordingly.

The public hearing for the Air District Governing Board to consider the Draft 2003 PM10 Plan is scheduled for June.